

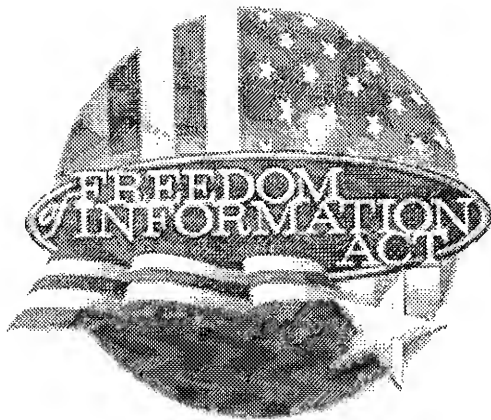
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY ACTS

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

FILE NUMBER: 100-106670

MAIN FILE

SECTION: JUNE (2)



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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100-106670 -

Section II

1674... →

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FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET14

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. W. R. Wannall *Wannall*

JUNE

FROM : J. G. Deegan *Deegan*

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

- 1 - Mr. J. B. Adams
- 2 - Mr. J. A. Mintz
- (1 - Mr. J.B. Hotis)

DATE: 2/6/76

- 1 - Mr. W. R. Wannall
- 1 - Mr. J. G. Deegan
- 1 - Mr. W. O. Cregar
- 1 - Mr. J. T. Aldhizer

Assoc. Dir. _____
Dep. AD Adm. _____
Dep. AD Inv. _____
Asst. Dir. _____
Admin. _____
Comp. Syst. _____
Ext. Affairs _____
Files & Com. _____
Gen. Inv. _____
Ident. _____
Inspection _____
Intell. _____
Laboratory _____
Plan. & Eval. _____
Spec. Inv. _____
Training _____
Legal Coun. _____
Telephone Rm. _____
Director Sec'y _____

This informative memorandum to record inquiry of Department concerning tapes of microphone surveillances on Martin Luther King, Jr.

On 2/5/76, Supervisor [REDACTED] INTD, returned a call to Mr. Quinlan J. Shea, Jr., on the Deputy Attorney General's (DAG) Staff, who said he had been informed by Civil Rights Division Assistant Attorney General Pottinger that Supervisor Campbell was the custodian of the King tapes and Shea desired some information from Campbell. It was explained to Shea that Pottinger was apparently given a wrong impression when he, Pottinger, listened to some of these tapes. Supervisor William Campbell of the Laboratory played the tapes for Pottinger but Campbell's connection with them are primarily of a technical nature. As to the "custodian" of the tapes, Shea was told that in Bureau records they are charged to Section Chief J. G. Deegan and maintained in the latter's office but that if Shea wants to talk to the person most knowledgeable as to the tapes, it was [REDACTED]

Shea then said that his purpose in calling was a desire to protect the DAG relative to a pending suit wherein someone is attempting to obtain the tapes. He said that it was necessary that he give advice to the DAG to support an appeal regarding a denial of information to the person seeking the tapes. Shea indicated that research resulted in a determination that the privacy issue relating to King himself could not be raised as King is dead but that the Department was exploring the privacy issues as relating to the King family. At this point, [REDACTED] inquired as to whether or not Shea was aware of the efforts which were initiated by the King family through its attorneys to obtain FBI files concerning King. Shea said he was not familiar with this fact and it was suggested to him that he [REDACTED]

100-106670

1 - 62-116395 (Senstudy 75)

EX-110

CONTINUED - OVER

6 MAR 19 1976

SPEC. MAIL RM.

ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5/29/80 BY SP4/SPK/pd/er

Memorandum to Mr. W. R. Wannall
Re: Martin Luther King, Jr.
100-106670

might desire to consult with Assistant Attorney General Antonin Scalia. (It will be recalled that early in 1975, Assistant Director Mintz was present at a conference with Departmental officials, including Scalia and attorneys for the King family because of the family's desire to obtain the FBI's files on King).

Shea said he had no desire to hear the tapes which he frequently referred to as the "sex tapes" but wanted to have some idea of their contents. It was explained to him that while the tapes' contents were primarily of personal activities, they were not to the exclusion of other matters such as discussions of current events, civil rights issues and conversations between King and his advisors.

[redacted] inquired of Shea as to exactly what he wanted to know that he would use in his advice to the DAG. He stated that he would like to know whether or not the revelation of these tapes would be embarrassing to the King family and whether or not it would lead to an harassment of the family. He was told that such revelation would be embarrassing but that it was not clear what he meant by harassment. He then asked whether such revelation would likely result in the family being submitted to questions from the press that might be harassing to them. He was told that such revelations would quite likely so result. Concluding, [redacted] told him that if he desired any more information, it might be best for [redacted] to visit his office. He responded that he did not anticipate any further needs in this matter. b7(c)

ACTION:

None. For information. b7(c)

amc [redacted] *WRS* *HEB* *Jan* *for* *Jan*

ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

1 - Mr. J. E. Adams
1 - Mr. J. A. Mintz
1 - Mr. J. Cochran, Jr.
(Attention: Mr. W. D. Campbell) 2, 1976

The Attorney General

Director, FBI

J E M E

1 - Mr. W. R. Vannall
1 - Mr. J. G. Deegan

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

ALL INFORMATION
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/21/80 BY SP-1 ESK/DB/mc - b7c

This Bureau is in possession of 78 reels of tape resulting from our microphone coverage of the activities of Martin Luther King, Jr., during the period 1964-65. We also possess transcripts of these tapes.

Pursuant to the letter of December 12, 1975, from Mr. J. Stanley Pottinger, Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, setting forth your authorization for Mr. Pottinger's access to tapes concerning King, on December 19, 1975, Mr. Pottinger listened to some of these tapes. In preparation for this hearing, one of our supervisors in the Radio Engineering Section of the FBI Laboratory, had occasion to also listen to a number of the tapes. He observed that there had been some deterioration in the audio quality of the tapes, a condition which could easily occur when such tapes are retained for so long a period of time. It is his further observation that the tapes will deteriorate at an even more rapid pace in the years ahead.

We cannot, of course, anticipate with any degree of certainty the need in the years ahead to be able to listen to and understand these tapes, whether it will be our own personnel or others who will need to listen to them. In view of the foregoing, coupled with the current interest in these tapes by the Department and the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence Activities, we have given consideration to having the tapes duplicated onto fresh tapes which could be used

MAILED 15

100-106670

JAN 5 1976

REC-51

100-106670-44

ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

JAN 14 1976

MAIL ROOM

TELETYPE UNIT

The Attorney General

as working copies and which would thus preserve the audio quality of the tapes. We have, however, taken no steps to copy the tapes, deferring such action to your judgment. Unless we hear to the contrary from you, we will not copy these tapes.

1 - Deputy Attorney General
Attention: Michael E. Shaheen, Jr.
Special Counsel for
Intelligence Coordination

1 - J. Stanley Pottinger
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

1 - Richard L. Thornburgh
Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division

COBE

TELETYPE

J. McCarthy

W. O. Cregar

URGENT

1 - Mr. R. B. Shea

JUNE 13, 1975

TO SACS DETROIT
HONOLULU
LOS ANGELES
MILWAUKEE
SACRAMENTO
WFO

1 - Mr. G. G. Ross

JUNE

FROM DIRECTOR FBI (62-116395)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/14/80 BY 0016SK/DO/ME

SENSTUDY 75

IN CONNECTION WITH SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE REQUEST,
FOLLOWING DATA REQUESTED BY RETURN TELETYPE ATTENTION DTID -

W. O. CREGAR

ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE INDICES AT FBIHQ DO NOT INDICATE
OVERHEARS ON KNOWN TECHNICAL INSTALLATIONS ON MARTIN LUTHER
KING, JR. FOR FOLLOWING DATES AND LOCATIONS:

WIRETAPS

APRIL 24 - 26, 1964
HYATT HOUSE MOTEL
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

JULY 7 - 9, 1964
HYATT HOUSE MOTEL
LOS ANGELES

① - 100-106670 (Martin Luther King, Jr.)

100-106670

NOT
170 JUN 20 1975

GGR:eks/lhb
(7)

SEE NOTE PAGE 2

DUPLICATE YELLOW
OF WHITE TRANSMISSION

JUN 30 1975

PAGE TWO 62-116395

MICROPHONES

JANUARY 5 - 8, 1964

WILLARD HOTEL
WASHINGTON, D. C.

JANUARY 27, 1964

SHROEDER HOTEL
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

FEBRUARY 18 - 20, 1964

MILTON HAWAIIAN VILLAGE
HONOLULU, HAWAII

FEBRUARY 20 - 21, 1964

AMBASSADOR HOTEL
LOS ANGELES

FEBRUARY 22 - 24, 1964

HYATT HOUSE MOTEL
LOS ANGELES

MARCH 19 - 20, 1964

STATLER HOTEL
DETROIT, MICHIGAN

APRIL 23 - 24, 1964

SENATOR HOTEL
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

JULY 7 - 9, 1964

HYATT HOUSE MOTEL
LOS ANGELES

PAGE THREE 62-116395

OFFICES REVIEW ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE INDICES AND
FURNISH FBIHQ FIRST DATE THAT KING WAS OVERHEARD ON ABOVE
TECHNICAL INSTALLATIONS. IF HE WAS NOT HEARD, SO ADVISE.

NOTE:

In connection with Senate Select Committee's request
for electronic surveillance information, it is necessary to
contact above field divisions to obtain dates that King was
overheard on known installations at above offices.

XXXXXX
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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET7

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N.R. 5/8/75 100-106670.

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET6

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. E. S. Miller *encl*
FROM : G. C. Moore *GC/SLD* JUNE
SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

1 - Mr. E. S. Miller
1 - Mr. G. C. Moore

DATE: 5/23/73

1 - Mr. J. A. Mintz
1 - Mr. C. E. Glass

2
Mr. Felt ☒
Mr. Baker ☐
Mr. Callahan ☐
Mr. Cleveland ☐
Mr. Conrad ☐
Mr. Gebhardt ☐
Mr. Jenkins ☐
Mr. Marshall ☐
Mr. Miller, E.S. ☒
Mr. Soyars ☐
Mr. Thompson ☐
Mr. Walters ☐
Tele. Room ☐
Mr. Baise ☐
Mr. Barnes ☐
Mr. Bowers ☐
Mr. Herington ☐
Mr. Egan ☒
Mr. Gandy ☐
Mrs. Hogan ☐

PURPOSE:

To advise you of a New York Times article (copy attached) on 5/21/73 containing charges by retired Special Agent (SA) Arthur Murtagh that the Bureau in a "get King" movement used electronic surveillance material to undermine the support of the late Martin Luther King, Jr., among his white backers.

SYNOPSIS:

Arthur Leo Murtagh, age 51, a retired SA practicing law in Constable, New York, is very critical of the Bureau and is writing a book about his Bureau experiences. In an interview by the New York Times he made allegations that the electronic surveillance of the late Martin Luther King, Jr., was part of a "get King" movement in the FBI triggered by a hatred of King by the late Director Hoover. Murtagh was assigned to the security squad in Atlanta which handled the King case but he was working on other assignments during the time of the electronic surveillance of King. He was known in Atlanta to be very critical of the disciplinary policies of Mr. Hoover and of the Bureau's weight program. We are checking out those allegations which can be checked but our files show that the surveillance of King was justified and was approved by former Attorney General (AG) Robert Kennedy.

REC-87

DETAILS:

In addition to The New York Times article there are attached copies of six Bureau documents showing the justification for and the extent of our electronic coverage of King and the propriety of that coverage as evidenced by the fact that the coverage was approved by Robert Kennedy, the AG at the time.

Enclosures

100-106670

ENCLOSURE

CEG:fb

(5)

fb 343

6

JUN 13 1973

ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

10 JUN 6 1973
RECEIVED

CONTINUED - OVER

SEE ADDENDUM PAGE 4

5-CEG

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6-2-80 BY SP-6/SLD/SLD

Memorandum G. C. Moore to Mr. E. S. Miller
RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
100-106670

The Atlanta Office has no information to confirm that there was any attempt to assign Murtagh to the King phone tap or that Murtagh refused to monitor the tap as he claimed in The New York Times article.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b(6)

Murtagh was born 9/25/21, entered on duty as an SA on 4/16/51 and voluntarily retired 9/25/71. He served in Atlanta from 10/30/60 to his retirement date. He is reportedly practicing law in Constable, New York.

Regarding Murtagh's allegation that one of the top officials from Bureau headquarters in Washington, D. C., had tried to persuade community leaders in Atlanta that they should not attend a banquet for King, Atlanta has indicated that former Assistant to the Director William C. Sullivan was in Atlanta about 1965 to attend a conference and at that time Sullivan made an appointment with and talked to the late Ralph McGill, editor of the "Atlanta Constitution" but the substance of their conversation is not known. The appointment was reportedly arranged by SA [REDACTED] retired, 67(c) who accompanied Mr. Sullivan but did not remain during the conversation. Mr. Sullivan at the time also attempted to arrange an appointment with the late Bishop Hallinan of Atlanta but this appointment did not materialize. As of this time we have found no

Memorandum G. C. Moore to Mr. E. S. Miller
RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
100-106670

information in our files regarding the nature of the conversation between Mr. Sullivan and Mr. McGill. We are continuing our efforts to locate such information and you will be advised of the results of our search.

On this subject the "Atlanta Constitution" on 5/22/73 carried an article indicating that the Mayor of Atlanta at the time and other city and state leaders were asked by the newspaper if the FBI had tried to interfere in anyway with the banquet for King and all denied any knowledge of such an attempt.

Atlanta can find no record of anyone connected with the Bureau contacting Eugene Patterson, also an editor of the "Atlanta Constitution," regarding King's plans to meet a woman at an airport in Florida as stated in the attached article.

In an effort to further pin down the allegation that McGill and Patterson were contacted we are conducting a file review which will be very lengthy to determine if there is any record of such contacts and to determine the details thereof. The results of this review will be furnished later. Murtagh's charges that intimate details of King's personal life were furnished to newsmen who were urged to write articles disclosing them cannot be substantiated in Bureau files. One article by Jack Anderson on 8/24/69 did refer to details of King's personal misconduct and quoted from a Bureau document but our files indicate that this information was not provided to Anderson or anyone else except The White House which requested the interview that developed the information.

As indicated in the attached article, Murtagh is in the process of writing a book and is apparently using The New York Times article to air sensationalism which will help sell his book. Except for the allegations regarding McGill and the statement by Patterson there is little in the article which can be checked out. Murtagh is quoted as qualifying many of his statements with such statements as "in an apparent effort to

Memorandum G. C. Moore to Mr. E. S. Miller
RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
100-106670

undermine King"; "the persuasion was said to have included"; "he said that he could offer no proof but that he believed completely"; and "from all the things I saw it appeared to me." Perhaps his book when published will contain more information on the bases for some of his allegations.

Until such time that such information is forthcoming and can be checked out we must go by the record which shows that contrary to Murtagh's conjectures that the electronic surveillance on King was triggered by Mr. Hoover's hatred of King, the electronic coverage of King was justified and was approved by the AG at the time.

The attached article has been referred to Inspector John A. Mintz for an opinion as to any Federal violation here. A preliminary opinion by Inspector Mintz is that there appears to be no Federal violation on the part of Murtagh.

ACTION:

For information. You will be kept advised of any additional information developed.

CEG
LAS
EM
ADDENDUM BY LEGALCOUNSEL, 5/23/73, JAM:mfd. *WGC*

While the information reported in the "NY Times" article attributed to former SA Murtagh does not appear to constitute a violation of any Federal statute, it is very likely that his disclosure to the press violated the secrecy agreement, which I understand he signed, dated April 16, 1951. If it becomes necessary, it might be possible to request the Department to intercede in our behalf and apply for an injunction prohibiting Murtagh from furnishing additional information derived from FBI files. Such an injunction could be based on the agreement he signed in 1951.

*we should not do this
at this moment - mail I *WGC*
have the good copy*

F.B.I. Taps Called Plan to Discredit Dr. King

By WALLACE TURNER

A former agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation says that in the nineteen-sixties the bureau used material gained in an electronic surveillance of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in an apparent effort to undermine the late civil rights leader's support among his white backers.

The former agent also said that many newspapermen were urged to write articles disclosing intimate details of Dr. King's personal life—details to be supplied by the bureau after they were picked up in the telephone taps. Three taps on Dr. King were said to have been much more widespread than had previously been reported.

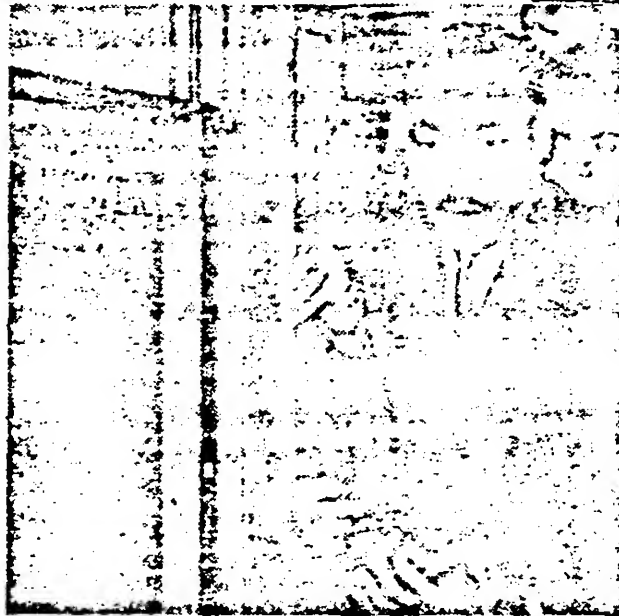
The former agent, Arthur Murtagh, a 51-year-old lawyer now practicing in Constable, N.Y., told The New York Times in an interview that important figures in the F.B.I. even tried to persuade community leaders in Atlanta that they should not attend a banquet that was held to honor Dr. King after he won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. The persuasion was said to have included a warning that the bureau had derogatory information about Dr. King that might eventually embarrass those who attended the banquet.

Tap Disclosed in 1968

Mr. Murtagh retired from the bureau in September, 1971, after 21 years of service, including 11 years in the Atlanta office. His account to The Times has been confirmed in interviews with various independent sources.

The fact that Dr. King's telephone was tapped has been well-established. It was disclosed in 1968 while Senator Robert F. Kennedy campaigned for the Democratic Presidential nomination.

After Mr. Kennedy was murdered in early June, 1968, his former associates said that the tap was installed when Mr. Kennedy, as Attorney General, acquiesced in 1963 to J. Edgar Hoover's repeated demands for authority to tap. Mr. Hoover argued that Dr. King had associations with subversive groups who sought to use the civil rights movement against the best interests of the United States.



The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. leaving J. Edgar Hoover's office after conferring with the F.B.I. director on Dec. 1, 1964. Dr. King had requested the meeting during a bitter controversy between the two men.

In 1969, the tap on Dr. King was further described briefly in court hearings involving the draft violation conviction of Muhammad Ali, then the world heavyweight boxing champion. These brief glimpses made it clear that the tap was instituted.

in October, 1963, and was continued at least into 1965. There were suggestions that it lasted until 1968, when Dr. King was assassinated, and the bureau has never given any information about the tap.

"Martin Luther King became the No. 1 bureau interest as far as the Atlanta office was concerned," Mr. Murtagh said. The former agent was a member of the 15-man group assigned to the security squad and it was this group that conducted the electronic surveillance of Dr. King, Mr. Murtagh said.

The former agent, who describes himself as one of a half-dozen liberals who survived in the bureau to reach retirement age, said he is now preparing his notes to write a book on his experiences.

Mr. Murtagh said he retired from the bureau on the first day he was eligible. He was very critical of the bureau in the interviews, which were held at his home.

He said that he could not offer proof, but that he believed completely that Mr. Hoover, as bureau director, sought the authority to tap Dr. King's phones in order to get information to destroy the civil rights leader and silence his criticism of the bureau's alleged failures to investigate the complaints of Negroes against white law enforcement

officers in Albany, Ga., from 1961 to 1963.

Mr. Murtagh would not name agents who took part in the surveillance. He said that he believed they had been taking orders, and that to name them now would cause them undeserved embarrassment. He said he had not taken part in the surveillance because he had told the supervisor in charge that he believed the tap was illegal.

Mr. Felt _____
Mr. Baker _____
Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Cleveland _____
Mr. Conrad _____
Mr. Gebhardt _____
Mr. Jenkins _____
Mr. Marshall _____
Mr. Miller, E.S. _____
Mr. Soyars _____
Mr. Thompson _____
Mr. Walters _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Baise _____
Mr. Barnes _____
Mr. Bowers _____
Mr. Herington _____
Mr. Conmy _____
Mr. Mintz _____
Mr. Eardley _____
Mr. Hogan _____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/21/80 BY SP 16SK/STK

The Washington Post
Times Herald _____

The Evening Star (Washington)
The Sunday Star (Washington)
Daily News (New York)
Sunday News (New York)
New York Post _____
The New York Times 25
The Daily World _____
The New Leader _____
The Wall Street Journal _____
The National Observer _____
People's World _____

Date 5/21/73

ENCLOSURE

100-106670-3950

When asked to explain how he could enforce such a refusal in a highly disciplined organization such as the F.B.I., Mr. Murtagh said that he had become known as a critic of some activities, and that his work in the Atlanta office was valuable to the agents assigned to direct the office.

He was paymaster, and "control," for a network of undercover informers who were "in place" in black organizations that were growing in importance at that time. He said, for example, that he was able to learn almost anything he wanted to know about the operation of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, which Dr. King headed.

Mr. Murtagh said he once challenged the agent who ran the surveillance to say whether there was justification for the contention that Dr. King was involved with subversives—the justification for the telephone tap. He quoted the agent as replying, "I would try to tell

others that there was, but, I wouldn't try to tell it to you."

Mr. Murtagh also said that the extent of the electronic surveillance was never well understood outside limited circles within the bureau. He said that it went on for at least three years, and that more than 5,000 telephone conversations were monitored.

Previously published accounts of the telephone tap have indicated that only three telephones were involved—those in Dr. King's home, at the Southern Christian Leadership Conference offices in Atlanta, and at an office in New York that was used by the person that Mr. Hoover had argued was a subversive attempting to misuse Dr. King. It was this contention that caused Robert Kennedy to approve the telephone tap.

Mr. Murtagh said that telephones all over the United States were tapped, and that it was not uncommon for the Atlanta bureau to discover that it had monitored a call, and that the other end of the call had been monitored by a different listening post.

"The surveillance was massive and complete," Mr. Murtagh said. "He couldn't wiggle. They had him."

Fed Into Washington

Sources in Washington confirmed the broad outlines of Mr. Murtagh's description. These sources confirmed that when Dr. King left Atlanta, the F.B.I. electronic surveillance went with him, and that his telephones in hotels in other cities were tapped, with reports of information derived from these taps fed into Washington as

In another part of his interview, and again in a way that avoided the use of names, Mr. Murtagh said that after Dr. King won the Nobel Peace Prize, the bureau made a well-orchestrated attempt to undermine the success of the banquet that was held in Dr. King's honor in Atlanta.

The former agent said that persons who understood his critical attitude toward the bureau's activities in the civil rights field told him that an agent from the Atlanta office and one of the top officials from Washington headquarters had called on two religious leaders and on the late Ralph McGill, editor of the Atlanta Constitution, to attempt to persuade them not to attend the banquet.

Mr. Murtagh again would not name the agent or the headquarters official. But he said that, the morning after the Washington man arrived at the Atlanta office, the agent said to Mr. Murtagh, "We're going to get him today. Hoover is going to take care of King today."

No Attack by Editor

Mr. Murtagh said that the bureau had agents assigned to be the contact men for persons such as newspaper editors, and that the man he quoted had been the contact for Mr. McGill. This agent took the Washington man to see Mr. McGill and the next day told Mr. Murtagh, "I guess McGill will be taking care of King." But the editor made no attack on the civil rights leader.

While the death of Mr. McGill and the refusal of Mr. Murtagh to name the agents made it impossible to corroborate his story, an interview with Eugene Patterson, former editor of The Constitution, produced a recollection that parallels the story told by Mr. Murtagh.

Mr. Patterson, now president and publisher of The St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times, said that in the spring of 1964, he was called on by an F.B.I. agent, whom he would not name.

"You people have been giving support to Martin Luther King," Mr. Patterson quoted the agent as saying. "Don't you owe it to your readers to tell them what kind of man he is? Our information is that while he postures as a great moral leader, he is running around with women. Don't you think your readers ought to know this?"

"I told him we didn't run a keyhole-peeking newspaper," Mr. Patterson remembered saying. "I told him that kind of thing had nothing to do with the civil-rights movement."

Urged Coverage

Mr. Patterson said the agent told him that Dr. King would meet a woman at an airport in Florida that weekend, and insisted that the Constitution send a reporter and photographer to record the meeting.

Mr. Patterson refused. Some days later, the agent returned and again insisted that "the newspaper would not print the news if we give it to you," Mr. Patterson said.

A day or so later, according to Mr. Patterson, the agent called and said, "our information is that the meeting is off so it's a good thing you didn't send anybody down there."

In reflecting on the electronic surveillance of Dr. King, Mr. Murtagh said, "from all the things I saw, it appeared to me to be a 'get King' movement in the bureau. It was triggered by Hoover's hatred of King as a result of King's criticism of the bureau back in '62 and '63."

He also said that he was somewhat ashamed as he remembered that one Saturday night, when the King telephone tap had been in existence for years, he agreed to spend four or five hours manning the listening post when another agent had an emergency that took him off duty.

"I don't really know why I agreed to do it," he said. "I guess it is that you go along and watch it run and it gets so you really believe this is too mammoth and there is nothing I could do."

ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

Memorandum

JUNE

TO : MR. BELMONT

DATE: 7/16/63

FROM : C. A. Evans

cc Mr. Belmont
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Evans

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN
RACIAL MATTERS

Classified by 1080 B. J. P.
Exempt from GDS, Category 2
Date of Declassification Indefinite

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

The AG was contacted at his request late this afternoon. He said that Clarence Benjamin Jones, a NY attorney who has had close association with Martin Luther King, and with Stanley Levinson (a concealed communist), had been in to see Burke Marshall about the racial situation. According to the AG, Jones had indicated he had some reservations about talking with Levinson on the phone. Marshall thought he might have been referring to a possible telephone tap, and passed it off by telling Jones this was something he would have to take up with Levinson.

The purpose of the AG's contact was that this brought to his attention the possibility of effecting technical coverage on both Jones and Martin Luther King. I told the AG that I was not at all acquainted with Jones, but that, in so far as King was concerned, it was obvious from the reports that he was in a travel status practically all the time, and it was, therefore, doubtful that a technical surveillance on his office or home would be very productive. I also raised the question as to the repercussions if it should ever become known that such a surveillance had been put on King.

The AG said this did not concern him at all; that in view of the possible communist influence in the racial situation, he thought it advisable to have as complete coverage as possible. I told him, under the circumstances, that we would check into the matter to see if coverage was feasible and, if so, would submit an appropriate recommendation to him.

If you approve, we will have a preliminary survey made to see if technical coverage is feasible with full security.

CAE:CSH (4)

ENCLOSURE

100-106670-36265
100-106670-3950
Sullivan
IDH

DECLASSIFIED BY
ON 10-22-80

1067

REASON FOR REVIEW
DATE OF REVIEW

Classification
Place in
100-407018

Marko +
7/1/63
1065

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: July 25, 1963

FROM : C. A. Evans

JUNE

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Tolson _____
 Belmont _____
 Mohr _____
 Casper _____
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 Tele. Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

The Attorney General orally informed me today that he had been considering the request he made on July 16, 1963, for a technical surveillance on Martin Luther King at his home and office and was now of the opinion that this would be ill advised.

At the time the Attorney General initially asked for such a surveillance, he was told there was considerable doubt that the productivity of the surveillance would be worth the risk because King travels most of the time and that there might be serious repercussions should it ever become known the Government had instituted this coverage. These were the very thoughts that the Attorney General expressed today in withdrawing his request.

With reference to the other technical surveillance requested at the same time, namely, the one on Clarence Benjamin Jones, the Attorney General felt this was in a different category and we should go forward with this coverage. It is noted that this was previously approved in writing by the Attorney General.

The memorandum we sent to the Attorney General on July 23, 1963, requesting authority for the King surveillance has been retrieved and is attached. (detached)

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

We will take no further action to effect technical coverage on Martin Luther King, either at his home or at his office at the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, in the absence of a further request from the Attorney General.

Enclosure

- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Rosen

CAE:vap

(8) 1963

ENCLOSURE

REC-39

EX-100

AUG 6 1963

ENCLOSURE

100-106670-395
 100-106670-3656

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5/22/80 BY SP-1/CSH/bmc



SECRET
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. 100-106670
100-3-116

SECRET

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

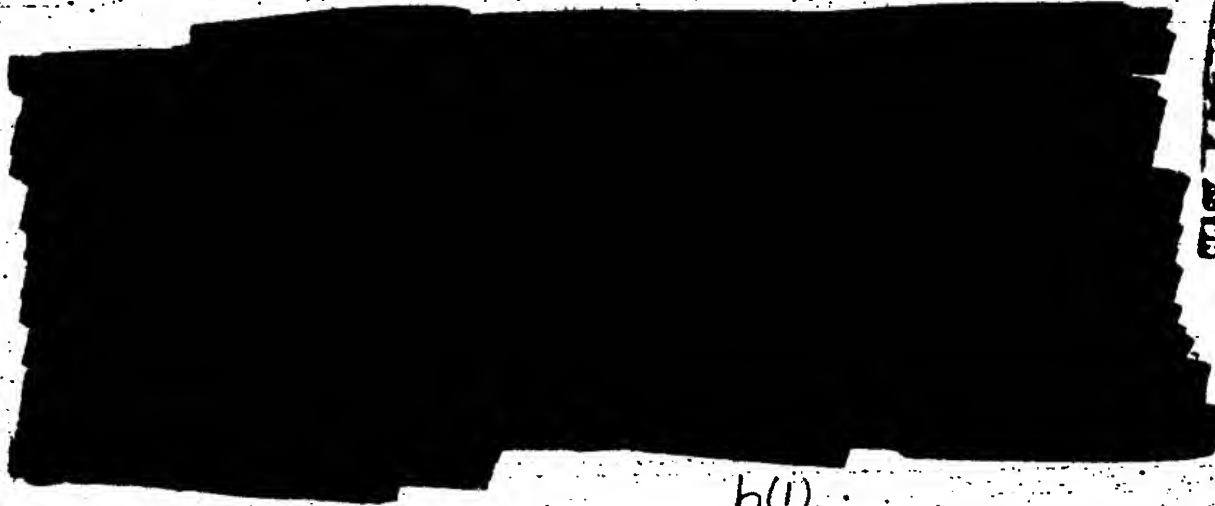
October 7, 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN
RACIAL MATTERS

~~DECLASSIFIED BY 5444 100-106670-1007~~
~~5444 100-106670-1007~~
135-1



CLASS. BY SP-2
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 10/17/83
TAP/10/17/83

b(1)

It is further requested that authority be granted to place a technical surveillance on the SCLC office at the current New York address or to any other address to which it may be moved.

Respectfully,

Classification: ~~Secret~~
Exempt from GDS, Category 2
Date of Declassification Indefinite
10/23/77

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ENCLOSURE

APPROVED

DATE 10/10/63

5 NOV 7 1963

251

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY SLIP

DATE 11/25/80
Classification

ENCLOSURE
SECRET

GROUP 2
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

100-106670-3656

3950



~~SECRET~~

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. 100-106670
100-3-116

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
October 18, 1963

~~SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN
RACIAL MATTERS

[REDACTED]

b(1)

Respectfully,

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 GSK/00/dkc
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 10/18/83 5/22/80

John Edgar Hoover
Director

APPROVED [Signature]

DATE 10/21/63

Classified by 6680 D/KAP
Exempt from GDS Category 2
Date of Declassification Indefinite
12/23/77

~~SECRET~~

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

ENCLOSURE

DATE 11/25/80

EX-102

REC-13

20 NOV 3 1963

ENCLOSURE

XEROX

~~SECRET~~

12 1963

3950
SPEC. INQUIRY

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: October 10, 1963

FROM : C. A. Evans

JUNESUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - C

Tolson ☒
 Belmont ☒
 Mohr ☒
 Casper ☒
 Callahan ☒
 Conrad ☒
 DeLoach ☒
 Evans ☒
 Gale ☒
 Rosen ☒
 Sullivan ☒
 Tavel ☒
 Trotter ☒
 Tele. Room ☒
 Holmes ☒
 Gandy ☒

The Attorney General was contacted at his request this afternoon. He had before him our memorandum of October 7, 1963, requesting authority for technical surveillances on Martin Luther King at his residence at Atlanta and at the office of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, of which he is president, at New York City.

The Attorney General said that he recognized the importance of this coverage if substantial information is to be developed concerning the relationship between King and the Communist Party. He said there was no question in his mind as to the coverage in New York City but that he was worried about the security of an installation covering a residence in Atlanta, Georgia. He noted that the last thing we could afford to have would be a discovery of a wire tap on King's residence.

I pointed out to the Attorney General the fact that a residence was involved did not necessarily mean there was any added risk because of the technical nature of the telephone system. He was informed that the Bureau had had years of experience in this field and that we continually reviewed our procedures to insure that every measure possible to secure such installations was taken. It was nevertheless noted that of necessity we had to deal with established contacts in the telephone company to get the necessary leased lines, but once again we had procedures which minimized the risks to the nth degree.

REC-32

5 NOV 7 1963

After this discussion the Attorney General said he felt we should go ahead with the technical coverage on King on a trial basis, and to continue it if productive results were forthcoming. He said he was certain that all Bureau representatives involved would recognize the delicacy of this particular matter and would thus be even more cautious than ever in this assignment. He asked to be kept advised of any pertinent information developed regarding King's communist connections.

Enclosure

- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
 1 - Mr. Donohue

CAE:vap

57 (6) UV 13 1963

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 5/22/80 BY SP2/68K/20/4/1

100-116670-3950

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont

Our memorandum requesting authority for ~~this~~ surveillance was signed by the Attorney General and handed to me. It is attached.

ORIGINAL OF ENCLOSURE
REMOVED FOR DIRECTOR'S OFFICE -
SEE 100-106670-3596

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. C. D. Brennan

DATE: April 18, 1968

FROM : C. D. Brennan

JUNE

1 - Mr. Rozamus
1 - Mr. RidgewaySUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

This is to advise you of past electronic surveillances that we had installed for the purpose of securing intelligence data concerning the late Martin Luther King, Jr., former President of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC).

Installed	Discontinued	Type	Location
11/8/63	4/30/65	Wiretap	563 Johnson Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia
1/5/64	1/8/64	Microphone	Willard Hotel, Washington
1/27/64	1/27/64	Microphone	Shroeder Hotel, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
2/18/64	2/20/64	Microphone	Hilton Hawaiian Village, Honolulu, Hawaii
2/20/64	2/21/64	Microphone	Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California
2/22/64	2/24/64	Microphone	Hyatt House Motel, Los Angeles, California
3/19/64	3/20/64	Microphone	Statler Hotel, Detroit, Michigan
4/23/64	4/24/64	Microphone	Senator Hotel, Sacramento, California
4/24/64	4/26/64	Wiretap	Hyatt House Motel, Los Angeles, California
1/7/64	1/9/64	Wiretap	Hyatt House Motel, Los Angeles, California

100-106670
RLR:sss

6 MAY 65 1968

CONTINUED - OVER

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Mohr _____
Bishop _____
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Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP/LSR/pjg

REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2

DATE OF REVIEW 4-18-88

Classified by 6042 Lofgren
Exempt from GDS, Category 2
Date of Declassification Indefinite

ENCLOSURE

100-106670-395

Memorandum C. D. Brennan to Mr. W. C. Sullivan
RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
100-106670

<u>Installed</u>	<u>Discontinued</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Location</u>
7/7/64	7/9/64	Microphone	Hyatt House Motel, Los Angeles California
8/14/64	9/8/64	Wiretap	125 East 72nd Street, New York, New York
8/22/64	8/27/64	Wiretap	Claridge Hotel, Atlantic City, New Jersey
9/28/64	10/2/64	Microphone	Manger Hotel, Savannah, Georgia
1/8/65	1/11/65	Microphone	Park Sheraton Hotel, New York, New York
1/28/65	1/31/65	Microphone	Americana Hotel, New York, New York
3/29/65	3/31/65	Microphone	Park Sheraton Hotel, New York, New York
5/12/65	5/13/65	Microphone	Sheraton Atlantic Hotel, New York, New York
10/14/65	10/15/65	Microphone	Astor Hotel, New York, New York
10/28/65	10/30/65	Microphone	New York Hilton Hotel, New York, New York
11/29/65	11/30/65	Microphone	Americana Hotel, New York, New York

In addition to the above coverage of King, the following coverage was afforded the SCLC.

<u>Installed</u>	<u>Discontinued</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Location</u>
10/24/63	1/24/64	Wiretap	New York Office
11/8/63	6/21/66	Wiretap	Atlanta Headquarters
7/13/64	7/31/64	Wiretap	New York Office

All of the above wiretap surveillances were authorized under the signature of the then Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy who on 10/10/63 authorized the coverage of King's residence and any other future address to which he may move, and the New York Office SCLC. He also authorized wiretap coverage of King and the Atlanta headquarters of SCLC on 10/21/63. These authorizations were given during the administration of President John F. Kennedy.

Attorney General Kennedy did not sign any microphone surveillance requests. Microphone surveillances were authorized by Bureau officials acting on general authority relating to the Attorney General.

ACTION:

None. For information.

ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

FROM : G. C. Moore

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

1 - Mr. C. D. DeLoach
1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan
1 - Mr. T. E. Bishop

DATE: 1/28/70

1 - Mr. G. C. Moore

JUNE

1 - Mr. C. D. Brennan
1 - Mr. M. J. Rozamus
1 - Mr. C. E. Glass

Tolson
DeLoach
Walters
Mohr
Bishop
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
Felt
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Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

To report the latest attack on the Bureau over the Martin Luther King wire taps by former Attorney General Ramsey Clark in an article, "The Death of Privacy" in the February, 1970, McCall's magazine.

In his article Clark describes privacy as the ultimate freedom and says electronic surveillances are the tools of those unwilling to make the sacrifices that are essential to public safety. He describes King as a great American of open conduct and says the fact that the FBI would tap his phones and bug his hotel rooms should tell us all we need to know about the desirability of those practices. Clark calls these surveillances the act of an incipient police state. Clark says the Government should tell the people of the United States whether the tapes from bugs secretly installed in King's hotel rooms were played to publishers, Senators and others as was rumored after King's death.

There were no wire taps or microphone surveillances on King personally or on the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), his organization, during Clark's tenure as acting Attorney General and Attorney General (10/3/66 - 1/22/69). Clark's authority was twice requested for a wire tap on SCLC headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia, but he denied authority both times.

There is nothing in our files to lend any credence to rumors mentioned by Clark that tapes on King were ever played for anyone outside the Bureau.

CEG:fb
(8)

SEE RECOMMENDATION PAGE TWO

FEB 5 1970
FEB 11 1970

SPECIAL MAIL RM.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5/20/80 BY SP8/BSY/bgh/ke

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

Memorandum G. C. Moore to Mr. W. C. Sullivan
RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

RECOMMENDATION:

This dishonest attack is what we have come to expect from Clark. He has chosen to completely ignore the well-known fact that Robert Kennedy not only approved but requested the coverage on King. It is recommended that his remarks be ignored.

copy
JAS/K

W.C.
They are those of a
frustrated ex official
whose own record
stinks.

H

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

Memorandum

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

FROM : G. C. Moore

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

1 - Mr. C. D. DeLoach
1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan
1 - Mr. A. Rosen

DATE: 6/27/69

JUNE

1 - Mr. J. H. Gale
1 - Mr. T. E. Bishop
1 - Mr. G. E. Moore
1 - Mr. C. E. Glass
1 - Mr. J. J. Dunn

Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bishop
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

The Director stated that there should be greater discrimination relative to the dissemination of highly confidential material obtained from sensitive coverage such as telephone surveillances. The Director questioned our dissemination in 1964 of data regarding Martin Luther King, Jr., to Carl T. Rowan, Director of the United States Information Agency (USIA) and to Dr. Leland J. Haworth, Director of the National Science Foundation (NSF). Reasons for such dissemination set forth below.

The documents transmitted to Rowan and Haworth were a 13-page document captioned "Communism and the Negro Movement - A Current Analysis" and a 2-page document captioned "Martin Luther King, Jr., His Personal Conduct." Copies of these documents are enclosed. Also enclosed is one copy each of the three cover memoranda by which authorization was obtained for dissemination to Rowan and Haworth and one copy each of the letters which transmitted the documents to Rowan and Haworth.

Dissemination was made to Rowan as Director of USIA since King's activities in the civil rights movement were receiving world wide publicity. For instance when the 13-page document was sent to USIA, King had been designated as the winner of the Nobel Peace Prize and this award had international ramifications affecting the USIA in view of its role in propaganda involving the U.S., it was felt that if USIA knew the true facts about King it would not further glorify this man or enhance his image on the international scene through its far reaching propaganda outlets. It is normal for USIA to widely publicize U.S. citizens who receive international recognition and we certainly did not want King to get such treatment.

As indicated in the enclosed memorandum Mr. Baumgardner to Mr. Sullivan 12/17/64, our dissemination to Rowan as Director of the NSF was based on information received that the NSF had contacted the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) for the purpose of obtaining applicants for southern schools. The

Enclosures - 9

100-106670

JJD:fsh

(9)

AUG 18 1969

CONTINUED - OVER

COPY MADE FOR MR. TOLSON

6 AUG 25 1969

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

DATE 5/22/80 BY SP-16SK/202/202

ST-105 REC-42 100-106670-3660

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-106670-3660

Memorandum to Mr. W. C. Sullivan
RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
100-106670

SCLC is the organization which was founded by King and we wanted NSF to be fully aware of the communist influences at work in the SCLC and the communist connections of King himself.

Regarding dissemination of highly sensitive and confidential information, this has been discussed with Bureau Headquarters personnel handling dissemination of such data. The necessity for the closest scrutiny of this data has again been stressed to these personnel to insure that this sensitive information receives carefully controlled dissemination limited to those officials and agencies having a need to receive such data. This matter will receive continuous attention.

ACTION:

None. For information.

gm
WCS
DLS
✓ in wstt
With Romania's well known racist attitude there should have been no dissemination of the King memo to him. He breached security in disclosing in his column material which is secured as Director U.S.A.
H

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

1 - Mr. C. D. DeLoach
1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan
1 - Mr. T. E. Bishop

DATE: 6/20/69

JUNE

1 - Mr. G. C. Moore
1 - Mr. C. D. Brennan
Attn: Mr. Rozamus
1 - Mr. C. E. Glass
1 - Mr. J. J. Dunn

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

FROM : G. C. Moore

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

Pursuant to your instructions, information is set forth below regarding requests made to former Attorney General Ramsey Clark for telephone surveillances on Martin Luther King, Jr., or his organization, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC).

An article in the Washington Post dated 6/20/69 indicated that former Attorney General Ramsey Clark had stated that the FBI repeatedly requested him to authorize a wiretap on King while he, Clark, was Attorney General. Clark reportedly stated that he had not granted any of these requests and he further indicated that the last of the requests came two days before King's murder.

We never sought Clark's authorization for a telephone surveillance on King's residence. On 1/2/68 Clark's approval was requested for a telephone surveillance on the headquarters of the SCLC in Atlanta, Georgia. The SCLC is the organization which was founded by King. Clark denied authority for this telephone surveillance on 1/3/68. On 4/2/68 authorization was requested from Clark for telephone surveillances on the SCLC headquarters in Atlanta, and the office of the SCLC in Washington, D. C. Authority for these surveillances was denied by Clark in a memorandum to the Director dated 1/17/69. In connection with the request to Clark on 4/2/68 as mentioned above, it is to be noted that this was dated two days prior to King's murder on 4/4/68.

ACTION:

For information.

100-106670

JJD:fsh
(8)

6 AUG 20 1969

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/22/80 BY SP1 GSK/DEK/m

10 AUG 15 1969

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : MR. DELOACH *K*

FROM : S. B. Donahoe *K*
O

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

DATE: 6/24/69

JUNE

cc Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Gale
Mr. Sullivan

Tolson ☒
DeLoach ☒
Mohr ☒
Bishop ☒
Casper ☒
Callahan ☒
Conrad ☒
Felt ☒
Gale ☒
Rosen ☒
Sullivan ☒
Tavel ☒
Trotter ☒
Tele. Room ☒
Holmes ☒
Gandy ☒

Pursuant to the Director's request, attached are Xerox copies of the following:

1. Memorandum 7/16/63, from C. A. Evans to Mr. Belmont, regarding Former AG Kennedy's request for technical surveillance of King, and showing that Evans raised question of possible repercussions.
2. Memorandum of June (actually July) 25, 1963, from Evans to Belmont, showing withdrawal of request by Kennedy, based on Evans' prior admonitions.
3. Memorandum of 10/7/63, from the Director to the Attorney General, requesting authority for technical surveillance of King. Approval is indicated by signature of Robert F. Kennedy and the date 10/10/63.
4. Memorandum of 9/20/63, to Director, from Assistant Attorney General Burke Marshall, regarding Marshall's conversations with King concerning O'Dell and Levison.

Enclosures *K*

EX-102

SBD:CSH (4)

REC-11

100-106670-3656 *5-9 Bales*

ENCLOSURE

10 AUG 15 1969

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/22/80 BY SP/6SK/DB/HKE

SPEC. MAIL RM.

6 AUG 25 1969

31

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: September 20, 1963

FROM : Burke Marshall, Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

SUBJECT: Hunter Pitts O'Dell

This relates to your letterhead memorandum of September 5 to the Attorney General, relating to Hunter Pitts O'Dell and the related prior memoranda. I appreciate your having sent copies of these to me.

This matter had been brought to the attention of Dr. King some time ago by me, but in accordance with conversations which the Attorney General had with Courtney Evans, it was not felt to be wise in view of the sources of the Bureau's information to state that I knew O'Dell to be under Communist influence or control at any time. I did inform Dr. King and two members of his organization -- Reverend Andrew Young and Reverend Wyatt Walker -- some time ago -- that since O'Dell was believed by many people to have had Communist connections, his association with their organization was not in the best interests of the organization.

At that time, inconclusive steps were taken to remove O'Dell, and his job with the Southern Christian Leadership Conference was changed. In response to direct questions whether I had hard evidence of O'Dell's Communist connections, however, I replied that I was not in a position to give any.

Following further conversations with Mr. Evans in June, however, I brought the matter to the attention of Dr. King very explicitly in my office on the morning of June 22 prior to a scheduled meeting which Dr. King had with the President. This was done at the direction of the Attorney General. Later that morning both the Attorney General and the President separately strongly urged Dr. King that there should be no further connection between O'Dell and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

ENCLOSURE

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2, 1 white O'Dellunclassified marked with an X
in comment hand comment to be
100-100670-3056

EXP. PROC.

SEP 25 1963

22 OCT 17 1963

100-100670-3056

RECORDED COPY FILED IN

Dr. King stated that the connection would be ended. Thereafter, the Attorney General and I both received copies of the attached letter, dated July 3, 1963, from Dr. King to O'Dell.



b(1)

I thought you should have this additional information for your file.

cc: The Attorney General
The Deputy Attorney General

1500 N. AVE., N. E.
ATLANTA 3, GEORGIA
PHONE 524-1378

Dr. King
Southern Christian Leadership Conference

Martin Luther King Jr., President

Wyatt Tee Walker, Executive Director

July 3, 1963

Burke
AM

Attorney General Robert Kennedy
Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Kennedy:

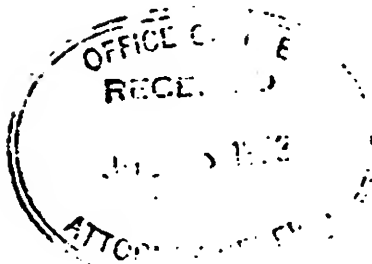
Dr. King asked me to send you the enclosed copy of
a letter which he has just sent to Mr. Jack O'Dell.

Sincerely yours,

Donna McDonald

(Miss) D. McDonald
Secretary

enc



100-106670-3656

July 3, 1963

Mr. Jack H. O'Dell
488 St. Nicholas Avenue
Apartment 5-S
New York, New York

Dear Jack:

Several months ago you submitted your resignation pending an investigation of your alleged affiliation with the Communist party, as was suggested by an article to this effect in the Birmingham and New Orleans newspapers. We accepted this temporary resignation because of SCLC's firm policy that no Communist nor Communist sympathizer can be on our staff or in our membership. We felt that it was imperative to conduct an immediate investigation. As you know, we conducted what we felt to be a thorough inquiry into these charges and were unable to discover any present connections with the Communist party on your part.

The situation in our country is such, however, that any allusion to the left brings forth an emotional response which would seem to indicate that SCLC and the Southern Freedom Movement are Communist inspired. In these critical times we cannot afford to risk any such impressions. We, therefore, have decided in our Administrative Committee, that we should request you to make your temporary resignation permanent.

We certainly appreciate the years of unselfish service which you have put into our New York Office, and regret the necessity of your departure. Certainly, yours is a significant sacrifice commensurate with the sufferings in jail and through loss of jobs under racist intimidation. We all pray for the day when our nation may be truly the land of the free.

100-106670-3656

Mr. O'Dell
July 3, 1963
Page Two

May God bless you and continue to inspire you in the service of
your fellowman.

Sincerely yours,

Martin Luther King, Jr.

Km

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: June 25, 1963

FROM : C. A. Evans

JUNE

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Tolson	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
DeLoach	_____
Evans	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

The Attorney General orally informed me today that he had been considering the request he made on July 16, 1963, for a technical surveillance on Martin Luther King at his home and office and was now of the opinion that this would be ill advised.

At the time the Attorney General initially asked for such a surveillance, he was told there was considerable doubt that the productivity of the surveillance would be worth the risk because King travels most of the time and that there might be serious repercussions should it ever become known the Government had instituted this coverage. These were the very thoughts that the Attorney General expressed today in withdrawing his request.

With reference to the other technical surveillance requested at the same time, namely, the one on Clarence Benjamin Jones, the Attorney General felt this was in a different category and we should go forward with this coverage. It is noted that this was previously approved in writing by the Attorney General.

The memorandum we sent to the Attorney General on July 23, 1963, requesting authority for the King surveillance has been retrieved and is attached. (*attached*)

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

We will take no further action to effect technical coverage on Martin Luther King, either at his home or at his office at the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, in the absence of a further request from the Attorney General.

Enclosure

- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Rosen

CAE:vap

REC-39

AUG 6 1963

100-106670-3656

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/22/80 BY SP/6SK/laz/dke

58 AUG 8 1964

ENCLOSURE



~~SECRET~~
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

In Reply, Please Refer
File No. 100-106070
100-3-120

October 7, 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN
RACIAL MATTERS

CLASS. & EXT. BY *152/52/100/100*
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW *10/17/83*



It is further requested that authority be granted to place a technical surveillance on the SCLC office at the current New York address or to any other address to which it may be moved.

Respectfully,

Classified by *606/Ed/100/2*
Exempt from GDS, Category *2*
Date of Declassification Indefinite
12/22/77

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ENCLOSURE

APPROVED *[Signature]*

DATE *10/10/63*

5 NOV 7 1963

SECRET

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

100-106070-3656

CLASS. & EXT. BY *152/52/100/100*
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW *10/17/83*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

~~SECRET~~

ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

Tolson	
Belmont	
Mohr	
Casper	
Callahan	
Conrad	
DeLoach	
Evans	
Gale	
Rosen	
Sullivan	
Tavel	
Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Holmes	
Gandy	

TO : MR. BELMONT

JUNE

DATE: 7/16/63

FROM : C. A. Evans

cc Mr. Belmont
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. EvansSUBJECT: COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN
RACIAL MATTERSDECLASSIFIED BY SP4JEM/ML
ON 10-29-80
1067 546PF, 604Y
1984

The AG was contacted at his request late this afternoon. He said that Clarence Benjamin Jones, a NY attorney who has had close association with Martin Luther King, and with Stanley Levinson (a concealed communist), had been in to see Burke Marshall about the racial situation. According to the AG, Jones had indicated he had some reservations about talking with Levinson on the phone. Marshall thought he might have been referring to a possible telephone tap, and passed it off by telling Jones this was something he would have to take up with Levinson.

The purpose of the AG's contact was that this brought to his attention the possibility of effecting technical coverage on both Jones and Martin Luther King. I told the AG that I was not at all acquainted with Jones, but that, in so far as King was concerned, it was obvious from the reports that he was in a travel status practically all the time, and it was, therefore, doubtful that a technical surveillance on his office or home would be very productive. I also raised the question as to the repercussions if it should ever become known that such a surveillance had been put on King.

The AG said this did not concern him at all; that in view of the possible communist influence in the racial situation, he thought it advisable to have as complete coverage as possible. I told him, under the circumstances, that we would check into the matter to see if coverage was feasible and, if so, would submit an appropriate recommendation to him.

If you approve, we will have a preliminary survey made to see if technical coverage is feasible with full security.

~~SECRET~~

CAE:CSH (4)

Classified by 100-407-18
Exempt from GDS, Category 2
Date of Declassification Indefinite 3/23/77

100-106670-36365

7/17/63
Sullivan
ID: [unclear]

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP16SK/DAK
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 5/22/80

100-407-18

Handwritten notes and signatures.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

1 - Mr. A. Tolson
1 - Mr. C. D. DeLoach
1 - Mr. W.C. Sullivan

Tolson ☒
DeLoach ☒
Mohr ☒
Bishop ☒
Casper ☒
Callahan ☒
Conrad ☒
Felt ☒
Gale ☒
Rosen ☒
Sullivan ☒
Tavel ☒
Trotter ☒
Tele. Room ☒
Holmes ☒
Gandy ☒

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: 6/21/69

FROM : G. C. Moore

JUNE

1 - Mr. T. E. Bishop
1 - C. D. Brennan
(Attn: Mr. Rozamus)
1 - Mr. G. C. Moore
1 - C. E. Glass
1 - J. J. Dunn

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

Pursuant to your instructions, information is set forth below regarding the claim made by former Attorney General Ramsey Clark that the FBI had sought permission to resume a telephone surveillance on Martin Luther King, Jr. as late as two days before King's murder.

We never sought Clark's authorization for a telephone surveillance on King's residence. King was murdered on 4/4/68. On 4/3/68 a memorandum dated 4/2/68 (copy attached) was sent to Clark requesting authorization for telephone surveillances on the headquarters of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) in Atlanta, Georgia, and at the office of the SCLC in Washington, D. C. The SCLC is the organization which was founded by King. Authority for these surveillances was denied by Clark in a memorandum to the Director dated 1/17/69 (copy attached with SCLC listed on page three).

The above-mentioned request for a telephone surveillance on the headquarters of the SCLC in Atlanta was the second request made to Clark. On 1/2/68 Clark's approval had been sought for a telephone surveillance on SCLC headquarters and Clark denied authority for this telephone surveillance on 1/3/68.

The facts set forth above clearly show that we never sought permission from Clark for a telephone surveillance on King's residence. THE ATTACHMENTS INDICATE, HOWEVER, THE REQUESTS FOR COVERAGE OF SCLC WERE BASED ON KING'S ACTIVITIES.

Enclosures For information. (2)

JJD:slh
(9)

100-106670

10 AUG 15 1969

SECRET MATERIAL ATTACHED

COPY SENT TO MR. TOLSON

SPEC. MAT. RM

AUG 20 1969

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/22/80 BY SP 16SK/DB/ace

ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

~~SECRET~~

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Miss Holmes
- 1 - Mr. W.C. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. G.C. Moore
- 1 - Mr. Rozamus

~~SECRET~~

(RI) 100-438794

JUNE

April 2, 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL 1 - Mr. D.M. Wells

RE: COMMUNIST INFILTRATION
SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

By letter dated January 2, 1968, authority was requested to institute a telephone surveillance on the national headquarters of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, 330 Auburn Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia, because its President, Martin Luther King, Jr., had publicly announced he would lead a massive civil disobedience in the nation's Capital in the Spring of 1968. At that time it was pointed out that these massive demonstrations could trigger riots.

By letter dated January 3, 1968, you declined authorization of this installation because, "There has not been an adequate demonstration of a direct threat to the national security."

In view of the recent developments in Memphis, Tennessee, where King led a march that ended in a riot, it is reasonable to assume the same thing could happen later this month when King brings his "Poor People's March" to Washington, D. C.

King, the day after the Memphis riot, was in conference with his principal adviser and long-time secret Communist Party member, Stanley Levison, concerning the events of the preceding day. King stated he was considering calling off the Washington march. Levison advised him to continue his plans for the Washington march.

Reason (9)

~~SECRET~~

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

SENT FROM D. O.
TIME 1:11 PM
DATE 4-3-68
BY [initials]

GROUP
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification
ENCLOSURE

APR 1 1968

TELETYPE UNIT

100-106670-3655

CLASSIFIED AND EXTENDED BY [illegible] REASON FOR EXTENSION [illegible] SCIM, II, 2.4.2 DATE OF REVIEW FOR DECLASSIFICATION 7-21-77

Rep

EX-116

APR 16

APR 10 1968

100-438794-2107

he

Wes

~~SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
RE: COMMUNIST INFILTRATION
SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Despite this violence in Memphis, Levison and King are continuing their plans for this massive civil disobedience to start the latter part of April, 1968, in Washington, D. C. u

In view of the internal security aspect involved, authority is requested to install telephone surveillances of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference at its national headquarters at the above-listed address and also at its local headquarters, 1401 U Street, N.W., Washington, D. C., so that we can keep apprised of the strategy and plans of this group. u

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Approved _____

Date _____

NOTE: Classified "Secret" since it concerns a technical surveillance, the unauthorized disclosure of which could result in serious damage to the Bureau security coverage and to the detriment of national security. u

This memorandum recommends the installation of a telephone surveillance on SCLC's headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia, and Washington, D. C., for intelligence-type data concerning King's plans for massive civil disobedience in the nation's Capital in the Spring of 1968. u

See memorandum G. C. Moore to Mr. W. C. Sullivan same caption, dated 3/29/68 prepared by D:W:dsm.

~~SECRET~~

NOTE IN ENVELOPE

JUNE

January 17, 1969

Memorandum to: Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

From: Ramsay Clark
Attorney General

Re:

The memoranda listed below requesting approval of wiretaps or electronic surveillances which I have not heretofore approved are being returned at this time denied. For a number of reasons I have not felt any of them have been sufficiently justified by the evidence presented. This does not, of course, prejudice their resubmission if additional evidence supporting the request is presented, or their review by a subsequent administration.

ENCLOSURE

Classified by 6061/BNP
Exempt from GDS, Category 2
Date of Declassification Indefinite

ENCLOSURE

NOT RECORDED
46 JAN 22 1969

[REDACTED] S

[REDACTED] S

[REDACTED] S

b(1)

[REDACTED] S

Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee
Racial Matters
Your memorandum dated September 13, 1963

u

[REDACTED] S

[REDACTED] S

[REDACTED] S

b(1)

[REDACTED] S

[REDACTED] S

0 X J
- 3 -
Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee
Racial Matters

Your memorandum dated June 27, 1968 U

[REDACTED] S b(1)

[REDACTED] U b7(c)

[REDACTED] S b(1)

Students for a Democratic Society U

Internal Security - Students for a Democratic Society

Your memorandum dated May 21, 1968

[REDACTED] U b7(c)

[REDACTED] U b7(c)

African-American Heritage Association

Your memorandum dated April 23, 1968 U

[REDACTED] U b7(c)

Communist Infiltration

Southern Christian Leadership Conference U

Your memorandum dated April 2, 1968

X

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

TO : MR. W. C. SULLIVAN *[Signature]*
FROM : MR. G. C. MOORE *[Signature]* JUNE
SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Bishop
DATE: June 19, 1969
1 - Mr. G. C. Moore
1 - Mr. C. D. Brennan
(Attention:
Mr. Rozamus)
1 - Mr. Glass
1 - Mr. Dunn

Tolson ☒
DeLoach ☒
Mohr ☒
Bishop ☒
Casper ☒
Callahan ☒
Conrad ☒
Felt ☒
Gale ☒
Rosen ☒
Sullivan ☒
Tavel ☒
Trotter ☒
Tele. Room ☒
Holmes ☒
Gandy ☒

Pursuant to your instructions, information is set forth below regarding knowledge by former Attorney General Nicholas de B. Katzenbach of electronic coverage on Martin Luther King, Jr.

DC
Although we have no specific data in our files showing that Katzenbach authorized a telephone surveillance on King himself, there is ample information showing Katzenbach was well aware of our electronic coverage on King and his organization, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). Attached is a copy of a memorandum dated 10/27/65 (initialed by Katzenbach in the upper right hand corner) showing we had a telephone surveillance on King's organization, the SCLC. Also attached is a copy of a memorandum 12/1/65 to the Attorney General regarding electronic coverage on King at the Americana Hotel in New York City. In response to this 12/1/65 memorandum, there is attached a copy of a note from Katzenbach to the Director stating, "Obviously, these are particularly delicate surveillances and we should be very cautious in terms of the non-FBI people who may from time to time necessarily be involved in some aspect of installation."

Copies are attached of nine memoranda to the Attorney General dated 10/20/64, 10/22/64, 11/3/64, 11/6/64, 11/12/64, 11/23/64, 12/17/64, 12/31/64, and 2/23/65. These set forth for Katzenbach's information valuable data developed on King. The data involved was derived from electronic coverage on King and the SCLC.

ACTION:

ENCLOSURE

For information.

100-106670

Enclosures - 12

JJD:ekw *[Signature]*

(8) 4/1

6 AUG 20 1969

EX-102

REC-41

100-106670-3654

INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/22/80 BY SP/6SK/DO/DCU

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

RE: BERNARD S. LEE V. CLARENCE M. KELLEY, ET AL.
(U.S.D.C, D.C.) CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1185

SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (SCLC)
V. CLARENCE M. KELLY, ET AL (U.S.D.C., D.C.)
CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1186

AS ENCL. TO 100-106670-3654
XEROX COPY of Unrecorded serial dated 11/23/64 pulled from this file
under court order of U.S. District Judge John Lewis
Smith, Jr., and sent to National Archives.

100-442529-u/r

RE:

BERNARD S. LEE V. CLARENCE M. KELLEY, ET AL.
(U.S.D.C., D.C.) CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1185

SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (SC)
V. CLARENCE M. KELLY, ET AL (U.S.D.C., D.C.)
CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1186

XEROX COPY OF 100-442529-203 AS ENCL. TO
~~RECORDED - 100-106670-36~~ pulled from this file 100-106670-36
under court order of U.S. District Judge John Lewis
Smith, Jr., and sent to National Archives.

100-442529-203

47

RE: BERNARD S. LEE V. CLARENCE M. KELLEY, ET AL.
(U.S.D.C, D.C.) CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1185

SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (SCLC)
V. CLARENCE M. KELLY, ET AL (U.S.D.C., D.C.)
CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1186

XEROX COPY OF 100-442529-215 AS ENCL. TO
~~under court order of U.S. District Judge John Lewis~~
Smith, Jr., and sent to National Archives.

100-442529 -215

RE:

BERNARD S. LEE V. CLARENCE M. KELLEY, ET AL
(U.S.D.C, D.C.) CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1185

SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (SC
V. CLARENCE M. KELLY, ET AL (U.S.D.C., D.C.)
CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1186

XEROX COPY OF 100-106670-503 AS ENCL. TO
~~under court order of U.S. District Judge John Lewis~~
under court order of U.S. District Judge John Lewis
Smith, Jr., and sent to National Archives.

100-106670 -503 50

RE: BERNARD S. LEE V. CLARENCE M. KELLEY, ET AL.
(U.S.D.C, D.C.) CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1185

SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (SCLC)
V. CLARENCE M. KELLY, ET AL (U.S.D.C., D.C.)
CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1186

XEROX COPY OF 100-106670-654 AS ENCL TO
~~Unrecorded~~ pulled from this file 100-106670-365
under court order of U.S. District Judge John Lewis
Smith, Jr., and sent to National Archives.

100-106670-654

RE: BERNARD S. LEE V. CLARENCE M. KELLEY, ET AL.
(U.S.D.C, D.C.) CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1185

SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (SCLC)
V. CLARENCE M. KELLY, ET AL (U.S.D.C., D.C.)
CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1186

XEROX COPY OF 100-106670-621 AS ENCL TO
~~UNRECORDED SERIAL DATED~~ pulled from this file 100-106670-365
under court order of U.S. District Judge John Lewis
Smith, Jr., and sent to National Archives.

100-106670 - 621

RE: BERNARD S. LEE V. CLARENCE M. KELLEY, ET AL.
(U.S.D.C, D.C.) CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1185

SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (SCLC)
V. CLARENCE M. KELLY, ET AL (U.S.D.C., D.C.)
CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1186

XEROX COPY OF 100-106670-871 AS ENCL TO
~~Under court order of U.S. District Judge John Lewis~~ pulled from this file
under court order of U.S. District Judge John Lewis 100-106670-365
Smith, Jr., and sent to National Archives.

100-106670 - 871



SECRET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. (IS) 100-442529

October 27, 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

RE: COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN
RACIAL MATTERS

A technical surveillance was instituted on the headquarters of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, 330 Auburn Avenue, Northeast, Atlanta, Georgia, on November 8, 1963. The Southern Christian Leadership Conference is a racial-type organization headed by Martin Luther King, Jr.

This technical surveillance has provided considerable valuable intelligence information concerning communist influence on the Southern Christian Leadership Conference through King, as well as the communist influence evident in the outspoken position which King has taken in opposition to the United States foreign policy concerning Vietnam. Some examples include the following:

Information has been furnished relating to contacts between King and individuals with communist backgrounds such as Stanley David Levison, Harry Wachtel, Bayard Rustin, Clarence Jones and Randolph T. Blackwell. This information indicates the extent of the influence being exerted on King by these individuals with present and former communist backgrounds. Information thus obtained reveals the part these individuals play in important policy-making decisions of King relative to his organization; assistance which they render King in his writings and speeches concerning racial matters; and the advice and counsel they give King in his declarations concerning United States foreign policy.

Unless you instruct to the contrary, this technical surveillance will be continued for an additional six months.

Respectfully,

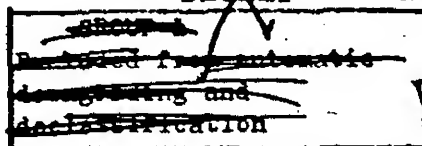
Classified by 6062/17P
Exempt from GDS, Category 2
Date of Declassification Indefinite
12/21/77

John Edgar Hoover
Director

SECRET

REC-61

6 NOV 5 1965



6 NOV 15 1965

100-106670-3654



~~SECRET~~

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

with
12/10/65

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. (IS) 100-106670

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

December 1, 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

"JUNE"

RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

This Bureau's investigation of the communist influence in racial matters has developed considerable information indicating the influence upon Martin Luther King, Jr., head of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, by individuals with subversive backgrounds such as Stanley David Levison, Harry Wachtel, Bayard Rustin and others. From time to time, King meets with these individuals and coverage of these meetings by this Bureau results in the obtaining of evidence of the influences upon King as well as information concerning the tactics and plans of King and his organization in the civil rights movement. The coverage of these meetings also has developed information concerning King's involvement in the Vietnam situation. These meetings frequently take place in hotel rooms in New York City.

On November 29, 1965, information was obtained that King was to spend the night of November 29, 1965, at the Americana Hotel, 52nd Street and 7th Avenue, New York City. We also had information that King planned to meet with his advisors while in New York City, November 29-30, 1965. Because of the importance of the meeting and the urgency of the situation, a microphone surveillance was effected November 29, 1965, on King in Rooms 3609-3611, Americana Hotel, New York City. This surveillance involved trespass and was discontinued on November 30, 1965.

Respectfully,

J. Edgar Hoover

Classified by *1080 LAD*
Exempt from GDS, Category *2*
Date of Declassification Indefinite *12/2/77*

John Edgar Hoover
Director

~~SECRET~~

~~Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification~~

6 JAN 10 1966

209
6 JAN 12 1966

DECLASSIFIED BY *SP1 GSK/DB/dcc*
ON *5/2/80*

REC-4 REC-4
100-106670-2183

1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Evans
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - J. F. Bland

The Acting Attorney General

November 6, 1964

Director, FBI

1 - E. J. Baumgardner

**COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C**

A confidential source of this Bureau who has furnished reliable information in the past supplied the following information concerning a contact between Martin Luther King, Jr., and Clarence Jones on November 4, 1964.

Jones said that now that the election is over they should think about what form "of struggle they should use," adding that he had been discussing it with "our friend." Jones said that he had heard rumors from responsible Democratic people in New York that King may be offered an official role in the Administration. Jones told King that King should think about this and that King must translate his moral influence into political power. King replied that he would think about the matter, taking into consideration "the movement and my personal goal." Jones also told King that King should think about what role "our friend" can play in this period, commenting that "our friend" had been helpful and has abided by the "decisions." Jones expressed the belief that "our friend" should be given some role inasmuch as "we're not in the same situation as we were with the Kennedy Administration." Jones also referred to the fact that the Civil Rights Bill is now the law. King replied "Good, after the election it would be a new situation."

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-1 GSK/DB/PLC
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 11/6/84

Classified by 6046 Lohrman
Exempt from GDS, Category 7
Date of Declassification Indefinite (2/24/77)

100-442529

1 - 100-106670 (King)

53 NOV 10 1964

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO.

DUPLICATE YELLOW

SECRET

100-106670 -
NOT RECORDED
14 NOV 9 1964

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

~~SECRET~~

The Acting Attorney General

This information is also being furnished to the Honorable Bill D. Moyers, Special Assistant to the President.

1 - The Deputy Attorney General

1 - Mr. Burke Marshall
Assistant Attorney General

1 - Mr. J. Walter Yeagley
Assistant Attorney General

NOTE:

Classified "~~Secret~~" as sources utilized, such as [REDACTED], are highly sensitive ones pertaining to the racial situation. They are of continuing value and the unauthorized disclosure of this information could affect their security and thus possibly be injurious to the national defense. Information taken from New York teletype 11/5/64.

b(2)
u b7(D)

- 2 -

~~SECRET~~

1 - Belmont
1 - Mohr
1 - DeLoach
1 - Rosen
1 - Evans

The Acting Attorney General

November 12, 1964

Director, FBI

1 - Sullivan
1 - Bland
1 - Baumgardner

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - C

Enclosed is a memorandum dated November 12, 1964, which contains information concerning plans being made by Martin Luther King, Jr., concerning King's receipt of the Nobel Peace Prize which is to take place December 10, 1964, at Oslo, Norway. These plans include a possible meeting between King and Prime Minister Harold Wilson of England to take place in London, England, December 6 or 7, 1964, and plans for honoring King in New York City upon his return from Norway.

This information is also being furnished to the Honorable Bill D. Moyers, Special Assistant to the President, and other interested officials of the Government.

Enclosure

100-100070

- 1 - The Deputy Attorney General (Enclosure)
- 1 - Mr. J. Edgar Hoover (Enclosure)
Assistant Attorney General
- 1 - Mr. Burke Marshall (Enclosure)
Assistant Attorney General

① - 100-442529 (CIRM)

(16)

DECLASSIFIED BY 6050 Red/MP
ON 12/1/72

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/22/80 BY SP/68/bbk

(SEE NOTE PAGE TWO)

ENCLOSURE

SECRET
GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

100-442529
NOV 16 1964

79 NOV 17 1964

~~SECRET~~

The Acting Attorney General

NOTE:

See memorandum Baumgardner to Sullivan, dated 11/10/64, captioned "Martin Luther King, Jr., SM - C," prepared by SFP:jad. Classified "~~Secret~~" as the enclosure is so classified and also because information contained in this transmittal letter is from highly sensitive sources. The disclosure of this information could reveal the source's identity and thus possibly be injurious to the national defense. *u*

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Evans
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - J. F. Bland 1-Liaison
1 - F. J. Baumgardner

November 12, 1964 b7c

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Confidential sources of this Bureau who have furnished reliable information in the past have supplied the following information concerning plans being made by Martin Luther King, Jr., and his associates concerning King's receipt of the Nobel Peace Prize which is to take place December 10, 1964, at Oslo, Norway.

On November 3, 1964, Bayard Rustin contacted the secretary of Dr. Ralph Bunche, Undersecretary for Special Political Affairs, United Nations (UN). Rustin stated that he was speaking on behalf of Martin Luther King, Jr., and requested to see Bunche regarding the receipt of the Nobel Peace Prize by King. (u)

Subsequently on November 3, 1964, Rustin conferred with Bunche and told him that upon King's return to New York City, after receiving the Nobel Prize, there is to be a welcoming affair at either a large dinner at a hotel or an activity at Carnegie Hall. Rustin told Bunche that King wanted to know whether Bunche would be prepared to be chairman of the welcoming committee which will include civil rights leaders and "a number of key liberals." Bunche said that he would be glad to be chairman, but that he would have to be informed as to the others who will be on the committee since there are some people with whom he will not work. Bunche told Rustin that he had sent a letter to King advising King that the Secretary General of the UN was hoping that King would visit the UN upon his return. Rustin told Bunche that he would personally meet with Bunche later and go over the details relative to King visiting the UN. Rustin also told Bunche that an invitation had been extended by the President of Brazil to have King visit Brazil on his way back to the United States. Rustin stated that he felt that this was not wise due to certain aspects of the regime in power in Brazil and inquired as to what Bunche's thoughts were on this matter. Bunche agreed that it was not a very good idea for King to visit Brazil at this time. (u)

DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 TAP/cg/mb
7-31-79

Classified by 6880 CDR/AFJ
Exempt from GDS, Category 1
Date of Declassification Indefinite
12/2/77

~~SECRET~~

~~Group 1~~

~~Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification~~

100-106670

① - 100-442529

SEE NOTE
PAGE FIVE.

100-442529

~~SECRET~~

RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

On November 3, 1964, Rustin was in contact with Harry Wachtel concerning King's return to the United States from Norway. Rustin stated that King is considering making a speech at Carnegie Hall and selling tickets for the affair, the minimum price to be \$100. Wachtel said that King has inquired about the possibility that President Lyndon B. Johnson might attend such an affair, but that the President would not give an answer until after the election. According to Wachtel, Lee White, a White House aide, has stated relative to the President's attendance "the answer is not no." White has indicated that if the President could not attend, the President would send the Vice President in his place. Rustin indicated that a cocktail party would be held before the Carnegie Hall address by King. (u)

Rustin and Wachtel then discussed who might assist in the arrangements. Wachtel stated that Saul Mills had handled the arrangements for a concert for "us" and had made \$45,000 for "us." According to Wachtel, Mills is interested in the King affair and has submitted a memorandum of ideas on the subject. Rustin and Wachtel agreed to meet with Mills to discuss the matter. Wachtel stated that he would send Rustin a copy of the memorandum by Mills and in reference thereto Wachtel said that he thought the plans in the memorandum were too ambitious for they included an address by King before Congress and a ticker tape parade. (u)

Wachtel told Rustin that he is handling the details concerning King's trip to Norway and has spoken to the Norwegian Ambassador. (u)

Rustin then informed Wachtel that King desires to have Dr. Bunche and some white person to act as cochairmen of the affair welcoming King back to the United States, but that Bunche will not accept until he knows who the white person will be. Rustin indicated that he had considered having Senators Robert Kennedy and Jacob Javits as cochairmen so that there would be a nonpartisan element present. Rustin stated that after due consideration he thought it would probably be best to just have Bunche as chairman and have a subcommittee assisting him. Wachtel agreed with this idea. Rustin also informed Wachtel that King had been invited by the President of Brazil to visit that country, but that King (u)

- 2 -

~~SECRET~~

RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

should tell the Brazilian President that while he would like to visit that country, he will be unable to do so on his return trip from Norway and would be unable to visit Brazil until after the beginning of the new year. X(u)

On November 7, 1964, Wachtel contacted Rustin concerning the plans for welcoming King back to the United States and Wachtel stated that he had spoken to the White House and "the Kennedy front" regarding this matter. Wachtel said that he has Louis Martin of the Democratic National Committee "lined up." It is Wachtel's belief that President Johnson will come to New York City. Wachtel stated that he is waiting to hear from Senator Robert Kennedy in this matter as well. X(u)

Wachtel instructed Rustin to speak with Dr. Bunche and tell him that if the UN gave a luncheon for King, it would be better if held after King's return to the United States, but that the final decision is being left to the UN people. Wachtel suggested that if the UN affair was held before King's departure for Norway, December 4, 1964, would be a good date because it is just after the opening of the General Assembly at the UN and there will be many prominent people there. Wachtel noted the possibility of Leonid I. Brezhnev, First Secretary, Communist Party of the Soviet Union and Kwame Nkrumah, President of Ghana, being at the UN. Wachtel asked "Can you imagine Brezhnev embracing Martin like Khrushchev did Castro?" Rustin replied in the affirmative. X(u)

Wachtel stated that no plans will be made for a ticker tape parade for King until an answer is received from President Johnson. According to Wachtel, Louis Martin of the Democratic National Committee should be given something to do "even if it is just selling tickets." Rustin mentioned the possible use of an armory and stated it would be necessary to contact Governor Nelson Rockefeller of New York who is vacationing in Spain. Wachtel indicated that this could be done later by telephone since there will be additional ideas for the Governor's participation. Summarizing, Wachtel mentioned that Mayor Robert Wagner of New York City could have the ticker tape parade; U Thant, Secretary General, UN, could have the dinner for King; and Governor Rockefeller could have the reception for King. X(u)

~~SECRET~~

RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

On November 7, 1964, Rustin was in contact with King and mentioned that he is beginning the draft of the major speech which King is to deliver and that King can complete it. On November 7, 1964, Rustin also contacted Peggy Duff, a resident of London, England, who is Executive Director of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. Rustin told her that King will be in London on December 6 and 7, 1964, and that Rustin wanted to know if Harold Wilson, Prime Minister of England, would be prepared to receive King. Duff indicated that she would check into this. Rustin said that it should not appear as though this was King's idea and that it was preferred that Wilson announce that he is inviting King to visit him. Rustin inquired of Duff as to whether there is a group of "peace-minded people" in London who would work to raise money for "our work in Mississippi." Duff replied in the affirmative and Rustin explained that the reason for raising funds is that "we" are some \$2,000,000 "in the hole on the Mississippi business" and that there are about 17 churches which have to be rebuilt. Rustin suggested that arrangements might be made to have the London Embassy of some African nation have a reception for King while he is there. X(u)

On November 9, 1964, Rustin told an associate that he was departing for London on November 11, 1964, for the purpose of clarifying a confusion which has developed surrounding King's trip to Europe in December, 1964. The confusion arises from the fact that the Archbishop of Canterbury desires to receive King, but has been opposed by certain elements since King is a Baptist. Rustin also indicated that while in London he is going to determine whether or not King will be able to meet with Prime Minister Wilson. X(u)

Bayard Rustin is a frequent advisor to King and is a former member of the Young Communist League, an organization which has been designated as subversive pursuant to Executive Order 10450. X

Harry Wachtel, also a frequent advisor to King, is the Executive Vice President of the Gandhi Society for Human Rights, a fund-raising adjunct of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, which Conference is headed by King. [REDACTED] b7c

- 4 -

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

[REDACTED]

b7(D)

Sam Mills was a member of the Communist Party, USA during the period 1938 to 1947. (u)

NOTE:

Classified "Secret" as much of the information is from [REDACTED] a highly sensitive source, relating to the racial situation. The unauthorized disclosure of this information could endanger the source's security and possibly do injury to the defense interests of the nation. (u)

b(2)
b7(D)
(u)

- 5 -
~~SECRET~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

Memorandum

TO : MR. W. C. SULLIVAN *JS*

FROM : MR. G. C. MOORE *me* JUNE

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Bishop

DATE: June 9, 1969

1 - Mr. G. C. Moore
1 - Mr. C. D. Brennan
(Attention: Mr.

1 - Mr. Glass

Rozamus)

Don
DeLoach
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
Felt
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

Pursuant to your request the following facts concerning electronic surveillances on Martin Luther King, Jr., and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), and former Attorney General Ramsey Clark's knowledge of these surveillances are set forth.

A wiretap was installed at King's address in Atlanta, Georgia, on 11/8/63 and was discontinued 4/30/65 when he moved. It was not reinstituted at his new address. Former Attorney General Robert Kennedy approved this 10/10/63. In addition, on Kennedy's 10/10/63 authorization, wiretaps on King were instituted at the Hyatt House Motel in Los Angeles (4/24-26/64 and 7/7-9/64; at 125 East 72 Street, New York City, temporary address, 8/14-9/8/64); and the Claridge Hotel, Atlantic City, New Jersey, (8/22-27/64). These were discontinued when King left these addresses.

Wiretaps were installed at SCLC headquarters in New York City, 10/24/63-1/24/64 and 7/13/64-7/31/64. The discontinuance 1/24/64 was for lack of productivity; the discontinuance on 7/31/64 was because the office moved. There was a wiretap on the SCLC Atlanta headquarters 11/8/63 to 6/21/66 when former Attorney General Katzenbach ordered it discontinued because of the involvement of an SCLC official in a car theft case. These authorizations were also given by Kennedy on 10/10/63 and 10/21/63.

Former Attorney General Clark became Acting Attorney General on 10/3/66, he was confirmed by the Senate on 3/2/67, and was sworn in 3/10/67. On 1/2/68 Clark's approval was requested for a wiretap on SCLC headquarters in Atlanta, which authority he denied on 1/3/68. Authority was again requested on 4/2/68 and authority was denied by Clark in a memorandum to the Director 1/17/69. On 5/17/68 Mr. DeLoach discussed the King wiretaps with Assistant Attorney General Edwin L. Weisl. However, Weisl did not mention that Clark was aware of Weisl's inquiry concerning the King wiretaps.

ACTION:

None. For information.

100-106670

CEG:ekw (7)

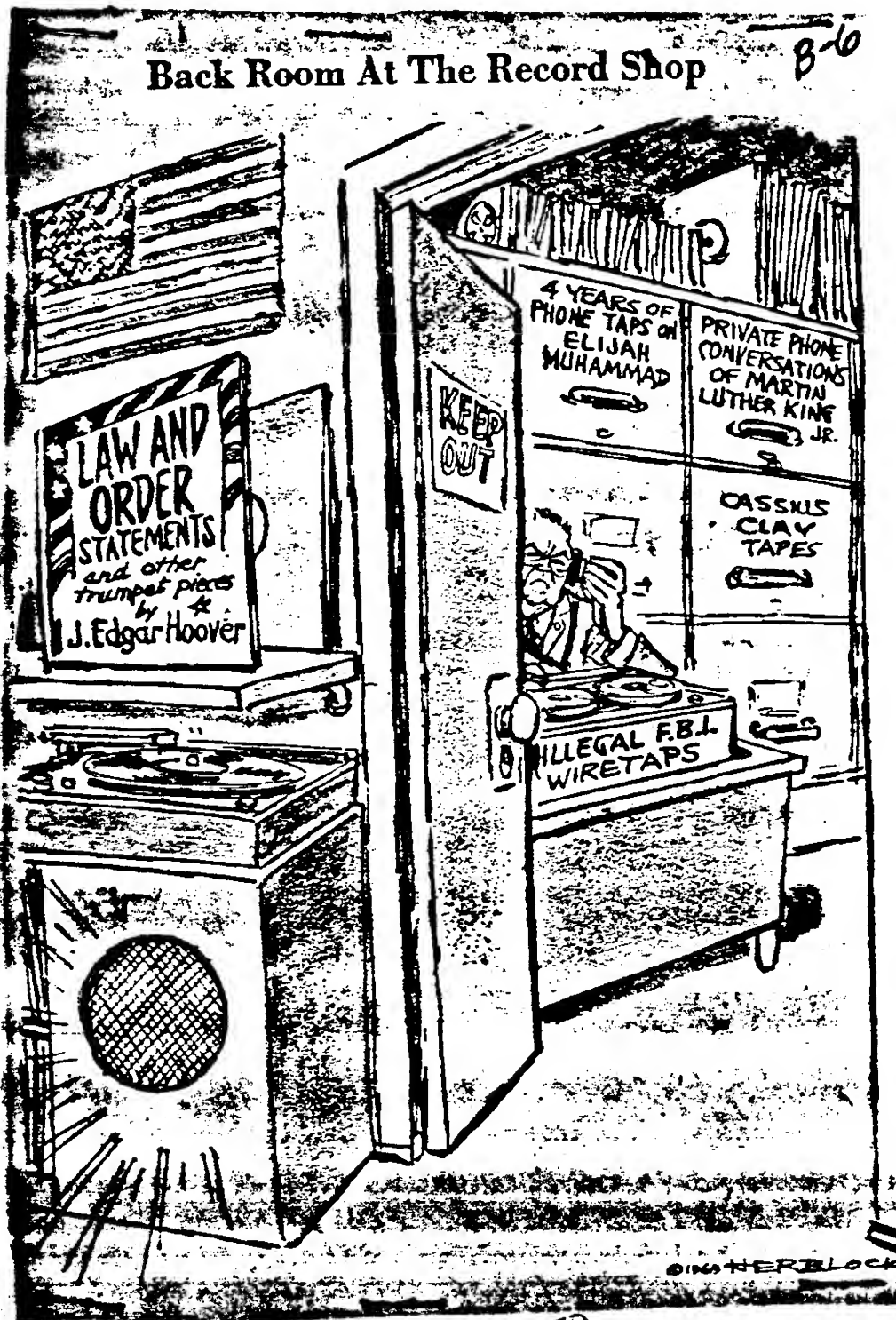
COPIES SENT TO MR. TOLSON

6 ENCLOSURE JUL 7 1969

EX-117 REC 36

3 JUL 3 1969

W.C. Sullivan
original author
John
5-15-69
SPCL. MAIL RI



Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

The Washington Post Times Herald _____ B-6
The Washington Daily News _____
The Evening Star (Washington) _____
The Sunday Star (Washington) _____
Daily News (New York) _____
Sunday News (New York) _____
New York Post _____
The New York Times _____
The Sun (Baltimore) _____
The Daily World _____
The New Leader _____
The Wall Street Journal _____
The National Observer _____
People's World _____
Examiner (Washington) _____

Date JUN 8 1969

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/22/80 BY SP/GSK/DEK

100-106670-3627
ENCLOSURE

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

Memorandum

TO : MR. W. C. SULLIVAN

FROM : MR. G. C. MOORE

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

ELIJAH MUHAMMAD
INTERNAL SECURITY - NATION OF ISLAM

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Bishop
DATE: June 10, 1969
1 - Mr. G. C. Moore
1 - Mr. C. D. Brennan
(Attention:
Mr. Rozamus)
1 - Mr. Devic
1 - Mr. Glass

JUNE

The Director has asked who authorized the wiretaps on Martin Luther King, Jr., and Elijah Muhammad and has asked to see the original authorizations.

There was a wiretap on King's phone at his residence in Atlanta, Georgia, from 11/8/63 to 4/30/65 when he moved. Wiretaps of several days duration were also instituted at the Hyatt House Motel in Los Angeles, California, the Claridge Hotel in Atlantic City, New Jersey, and at a temporary address at 125 East 72 Street, New York City. A wiretap was instituted at the headquarters of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) in New York City on two occasions. All these wiretaps were on the authorization of Robert Kennedy, dated 10/10/63, which is attached.

In addition, a wiretap on SCLC headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia, was instituted from 11/8/63 to 6/21/66 on Kennedy's authorization dated 10/21/63, attached.

A wiretap on the residence of Elijah Muhammad in Chicago was authorized 1/2/57 by Herbert Brownell, authorization attached. It was installed 1/4/57. On this same authorization wiretaps were installed at additional residences of Elijah Muhammad in Chicago, Illinois, and Phoenix, Arizona. The wiretap installed on this authorization was discontinued 6/23/66.

Ramsey Clark became Acting Attorney General on 10/3/66.

ACTION:

None. For information.

100-106670; 105-24822

Attachments - 3 ENCLOSURE

CEG:ekw

JUL 17 1969 JUL 7 1969

DeLoach
Mohr
Bishop
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
Felt
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/19/80 BY SP-16SKP/STP

MEMO TO AG 6/10/69 CEG/ekw

FILED
UNREC COPY AND C

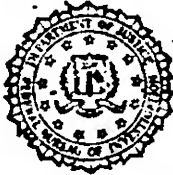
100-106670-36

REC 36

JUL 8 1969

EX-117

Send memo to
a.g. H.C.C. 6/11
SPEC. INQ. RM.



~~SECRET~~

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. 100-106670
100-3-116

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

October 7, 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN
RACIAL MATTERS



b(1)

It is further requested that authority be granted to place a technical surveillance on the SCLC office at the current New York address or to any other address to which it may be moved.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/10/83 BY [Signature]

Respectfully,

[Signature]
John Edgar Hoover
Director

ENCLOSURE

APPROVED

DATE

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-1 GSK/DD/dkc
EXEMPT - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 10/7/83

NOV 7 1963

Classified by 6082 fcl/rpp
Exempt from GDS, Category 2
Date of Declassification Indefinite

~~SECRET~~
GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

100-106670-3625



~~SECRET~~

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. 100-106670
100-3-116

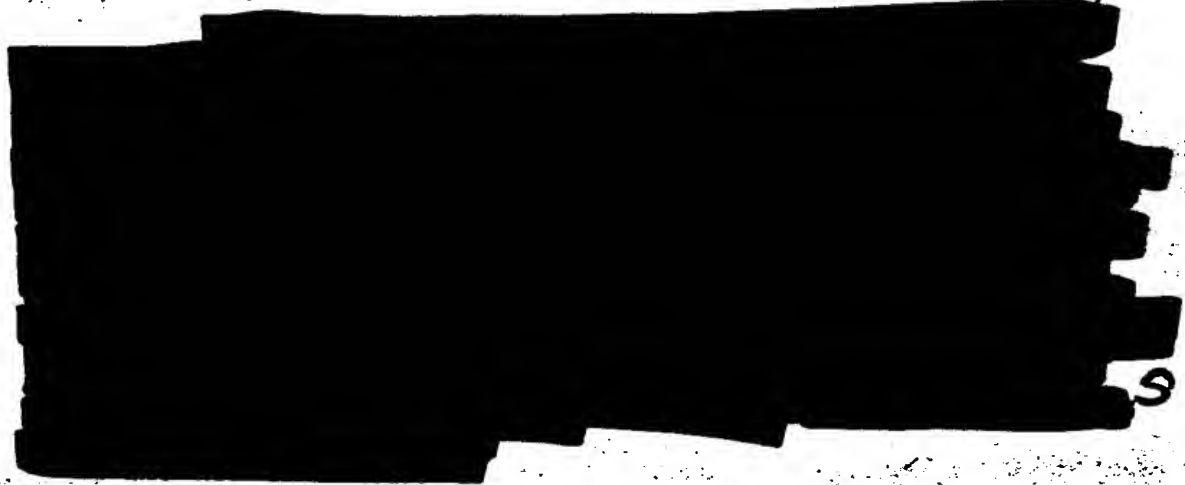
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
October 18, 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN
RACIAL MATTERS



Respectfully,

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director

APPROVED *ABH/Henry*

DATE 10/21/63

~~SECRET~~

CLASS & EXT. BY *SP1GSK/DB/RC*
EXEMPT - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 10-18-83
5/22/80

Classified by *6070 LAD/KOP*
Exempt from GDS, Category *2*
Date of Declassification Indefinite
12/31/97

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

ENCLOSURE

EX-102

REC-13

22 NOV 8 1963

ENCLOSURE

100-106670-25
100-106670-3625
100-106670-3625

NOV 12 1963

XEROX

SPEC. INCL.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: 6/21/69

FROM : G. C. Moore

JUNE

- 1 - Mr. C. D. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. T. E. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan
- 1 - C. D. Brennan
(Attn: Mr. Rozamus)
- 1 - G. C. Moore
- 1 - C. E. Glass
- 1 - J. J. Dunn

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

Letter received from Representative H. R. Gross (R) of Iowa expressing concern over controversy involving telephone surveillance on Martin Luther King, Jr. Gross requested additional facts regarding this surveillance and King's communist affiliations. Recommended that Gross be contacted by representative of Crime Records Division, thanked for his interest and advised that due to various ramifications involved in this matter, it is not believed appropriate to furnish him data requested.

We have had cordial relations with Gross. In his letter, Gross stated he believed a more complete accounting of King's activities is due the citizens of this nation and would most definitely be in the national interest. Gross requested: (1) that the Director confirm, in as much detail as possible, that the telephone surveillance on King was occasioned by his association with Communist Party members; (2) that the Director describe the occasion on which approval for the King telephone surveillance was requested and received. Gross asked if it was correct that a conference was held in this matter involving the Director, an aide, Mr. Kennedy, and Mr. Katzenbach; (3) that the Director furnish any facts deemed appropriate to demonstrate the extent to which King may have dealt with members of the Communist Party.

Data regarding the approval of the King telephone surveillance by former Attorney General Robert Kennedy and general information regarding King's communist affiliations have already received widespread newspaper publicity. In view of the various ramifications involved in the matter of King's telephone surveillance, it is not believed additional information should be furnished Gross. Release of additional facts by him will certainly result in additional widespread publicity and prompt numerous inquiries to us by members of Congress and FBI critics.

JJD:slh
(8)

100-106670

COPY SENT TO MR. TOLSON

3 JUL 3 1969

CONTINUED - OVER

6 JUL 16 1969

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5/22/80 BY SP-64/106670

S. DIA

REC-91
memo to [unclear]
6/23/69
100-106670-3624

RECEIVED AIR MAIL

See over

Memorandum G. C. Moore to Mr. W. C. Sullivan

RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

RECOMMENDATION:

If you approve, a representative of the Crime Records Division will personally contact Gross, thank him for his interest, and advise him that due to various ramifications involved in the King telephone surveillance, it is not believed appropriate to furnish him any additional data.

BISHOP WILL CONTACT GROSS IF APPROVED

TEB

WCS/wcs
JW

WCS

TEB

RB
ST

Tolson:

What is ^{your} view?

H ↓

6/23/69 ADDENDUM BY MR. TOLSON:

I agree. I see no point in continuing this controversy. I think Mr. Bishop should deliver the letter.

handle the matter.

CT:DSS

yes.
H

✓

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan *WCS*
FROM : G. C. Moore *he*
SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

DATE: June 16, 1969

JUNE

Tolson ☒
DeLoach ☒
Mohr ☒
Bishop ☒
Casper ☒
Callahan ☒
Conrad ☒
Felt ☒
Gale ☒
Rosen ☒
Sullivan ☒
Tavel ☒
Trotter ☒
Tele. Room ☒
Holmes ☒
Gandy ☒

Pursuant to the Director's instructions, the facts concerning the telephone surveillance of the residence of the late Martin Luther King, Jr., are being furnished the President by the attached letter.

In view of the interest of the Vice President in urban affairs, it is felt this information would also be of interest to the Vice President and a letter to him is attached. The information in these letters has also been furnished the Attorney General.

ACTION:

That attached letters concerning the telephone surveillance on Martin Luther King, Jr. be furnished the President and the Vice President. This mail should be returned to Mr. DeLoach's office for delivery.

Enclosures - 2

100-106670

- 1 - Mr. C. D. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. T. E. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. J. H. Gale
Attn: Mr. Devic
- 1 - Mr. G. C. Moore
- 1 - Mr. C. D. Brennan
Attn: Mr. Rozamus
- 1 - Mr. Patterson *kin*

TJD:fsh
(8)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/28/80 BY SP16SK/DK

REC-5

100-106670-3604

10 JUN 24 1969

6 JUN 27 1969

ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

June 16, 1969

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
 - 1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan
 - 1 - Mr. Bishop
 - 1 - Mr. Gale (Attention: Mr. Devic)
 - 1 - Mr. G. C. Moore
- BY LIAISON

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

JUNE

- 1 - Mr. C. D. Brennan (Attention: Mr. Rozamus)
- 1 - Mr. Patterson

Dear Mr. President:

The following facts are being furnished for your information concerning the telephone surveillance on the residence of the late Martin Luther King, Jr., authorized by former Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy and installed by this Bureau.

On July 16, 1963, an official of this Bureau saw Mr. Kennedy at the latter's request. On that occasion, Mr. Kennedy said he was considering the possibility of a telephone surveillance of King because of King's communist associations. He was advised by the Bureau official that since King was in travel status practically all the time, the productivity of such a surveillance was doubtful and he was asked to consider the repercussions if it ever became known that such a surveillance had been instituted on King. Mr. Kennedy said he was not concerned about possible repercussions and that he thought it advisable to have as complete coverage as possible in view of the possible communist influence in the racial situation. He was told that

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/22/80 BY SP/6SK/206/206

WCP:ekv
JUN 16 1969

REC-5

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

100-106670-3606

TOP SECRET

Group 1

Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

10 JUN 24 1969

JUL 7 1969

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080-200/207
ON 12/24/77

~~TOP SECRET~~

The President

the feasibility of such coverage would be determined and an appropriate recommendation would be submitted to him.

On July 25, 1963, Mr. Kennedy changed his mind concerning his request and thought it ill-advised at that time, but on October 7, 1963, a request for authority to place a telephone surveillance on King's residence was sent to Mr. Kennedy. On October 10, 1963, he authorized this surveillance, and a surveillance on any future residence of King, by his written signature.

This telephone surveillance was installed on November 8, 1963, and was discontinued on April 30, 1965.

This information has been furnished the Vice President and the Attorney General.

Sincerely yours,

NOTE:

See memorandum G. C. Moore to W. C. Sullivan, dated 6/16/69, captioned "Martin Luther King, Jr., Security Matter - Communist," prepared by TJD:fah.

Classified "Top Secret" because of sensitive nature of the information contained therein, the unauthorized disclosure of which could result in exceptionally grave damage to the national security.

~~TOP SECRET~~

ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

~~TOP SECRET~~

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. Gale (Attn: Mr. Devic)
- 1 - Mr. G. C. Moore
- 1 - Mr. C. D. Brennan (Attn: Mr. Rozamus)
- 1 - Mr. W. C. Patterson

June 16, 1969

JUNE

BY LIAISON

Honorable Spiro T. Agnew
The Vice President
Washington, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/2/80 BY SP-16SK/D3/H

My dear Mr. Vice President:

The following facts are being furnished for your information concerning the telephone surveillance on the residence of the late Martin Luther King, Jr., authorized by former Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy and installed by this Bureau.

On July 16, 1963, an official of this Bureau saw Mr. Kennedy at the latter's request. On that occasion, Mr. Kennedy said he was considering the possibility of a telephone surveillance of King because of King's communist associations. He was advised by the Bureau official that since King was in travel status practically all the time, the productivity of such a surveillance was doubtful and he was asked to consider the repercussions if it ever became known that such surveillance had been instituted on King. Mr. Kennedy said he was not concerned about possible repercussions and that he thought it advisable to have as complete coverage as possible in view of the possible communist influence in the racial situation. He was told that the feasibility of such coverage would be determined and an appropriate recommendation would be submitted to him.

100-106670

REC-5 100-106670-360

~~TOP SECRET~~

WCP:mms
(9)

GROUP 1

10 JUN 24 1969
SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080 P/L/TAP
ON 12/21/77

JUL 7 1969

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

~~TOP SECRET~~

Honorable Spiro T. Agnew

On July 25, 1963, Mr. Kennedy changed his mind concerning his request and thought it ill-advised at that time, but on October 7, 1963, a request for authority to place a telephone surveillance on King's residence was sent to Mr. Kennedy. On October 10, 1963, he authorized this surveillance and a surveillance on any future residence of King by his written signature.

This telephone surveillance was installed on November 8, 1963, and was discontinued on April 30, 1965.

The President and the Attorney General have also been furnished this information.

Sincerely yours,

NOTE:

See memorandum G. C. Moore to Mr. C. D. DeLoach, dated 6/16/69, captioned "Martin Luther King, Jr., Security Matter - Communist," prepared by TJD:fsh.

Classified "Top Secret" because of sensitive nature of the information contained therein, the unauthorized disclosure of which could result in exceptionally grave damage to the national security.

~~TOP SECRET~~

* 2 *

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: 6/19/69

FROM : G. C. Moore

JUNE

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/22/80 BY SP16463/KC

Pursuant to your instructions, information is set forth below regarding discontinuance of the telephone surveillance on the Atlanta, Georgia, residence of Martin Luther King, Jr.

The above-mentioned telephone surveillance was discontinued on April 30, 1965, when King changed residences in Atlanta. At that time matters of interest to us pertaining to King and his organization, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), were being obtained through a telephone surveillance on the Atlanta headquarters of SCLC. This telephone surveillance on SCLC in Atlanta was in existence from November 8, 1963, to June 21, 1966, when former Attorney General Nicholas Katzenbach ordered it discontinued because of the involvement of an SCLC official (Hosea Williams) in a car theft case.

Attached is a copy of Atlanta airtel May 19, 1965, showing the discontinuance of the telephone surveillance on King on April 30, 1965.

ACTION

1 - ENCLOSURE

For information.

Enclosure

100-106670

- 1 - Mr. C. D. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. T. E. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. G. C. Moore
- 1 - Mr. C. D. Brennan
- 1 - Attn: Mr. Rozamus
- 1 - Mr. C. E. Glass
- 1 - Mr. J. J. Dunn

1 JUN 20 1969

RECEIVED
FBI
JUN 20 1969

SPECIAL RM.

6 JUL 7 1969

JUN 20 1969

FBI

Date: 5/19/65

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-442529)

FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (100-6670-E)

JUNE

RE: CIRM

Re Bureau airtel 4/19/65, which authorized survey relative to Tesur on new residence of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. This survey was conducted with full security and results of same were furnished telephonically on 5/6/65 to Assistant Director WILLIAM C. SULLIVAN. On the same date, Mr. SULLIVAN telephonically advised that the installation of this Tesur was not authorized at this time.

Survey reflects that telephone service is afforded to the KING residence on two telephone lines.

[REDACTED]

Subject KING during the week of 4/12/65 moved his residence from 563 Johnson Avenue to 234 Sunset Avenue and orders were issued for discontinuance of this leased line. [REDACTED] is shown to be discontinued after April 30, 1965.

3- Bureau (RM)
1- Atlanta
AFM:elt
(4)

REC-16

10 MAY 28 1965

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/22/80 BY SP/6SK/DB/dec

INT.

10 MAY 28 1965
100-106670-3599

Approved: 91K

Sent

M

Per

JUN 3 1965

Special Agent in Charge

100-106670-3599

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

JUNE

TO : MR. TAVEL

DATE: 6/16/69

FROM : J. H. Gale

cc Mr. Gale
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Tavel

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST
Bureau file 100-106670

Tolson _____
DeLoach ☒
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt ☒
Gale ☒
Rosen _____
Sullivan ☒
Tavel ☒
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

Attached hereto is a copy of Former Attorney General Robert Kennedy's authorization to place a wire-tap on Martin Luther King, Jr.

Mr. Tolson has instructed that this copy be filed as an attachment to Serial 254, in file 100-106670, JUNE, Serial 254 formerly had the original as an attachment; however, the original, pursuant to Mr. Tolson's instructions, is now to be retained by Miss Gandy.

ACTION:

That the Files & Communications Division file the attached copy in accordance with Mr. Tolson's instructions.

Enclosure

JHG:CSH (6)

*Detached and filed
as enclosure to 100-106670-254
670*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/22/80 BY SP16SF/DB/dk

REC-106

100-106670-357

JUN 17 1969

6 JUN 20 1969

RACIAL INT. SEC.
SPEC. MAIL RM.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

~~SECRET~~

Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bishop
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Holmes
Miss Gandy

Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 5/21/69

H. Gale

JUNE

SUBJECT: UNITED STATES V. CASSIUS CLAY
ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE

In our 5/21/69 note to the Director advising of the request received from the Department to have SA [redacted] available in the Atlanta Office on 5/27/69 to review with Department Attorney Michael T. Epstein the Martin Luther King case and to prepare possible testimony for the Cassius Clay hearing in Houston, Texas, on 6/2/69, the Director asked the question, "Just what is pending re King?"

There is nothing pending on King. However, since Cassius Clay had appealed his 1967 Selective Service conviction on grounds that his case was tainted by "illegal Government eavesdropping," the Department had requested review of the Martin Luther King file since a conversation between Clay and King was monitored on 9/4/64 in Atlanta, Georgia.

The electronic surveillance established on King was requested and approval was received from the Attorney General. King had a close association with Stanley David Levison, a concealed Communist Party member and the security purposes intended by the electronic surveillance were to determine the extent of communist influence on King, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and the racial situation in general.

ACTION:

DECLASSIFIED BY SP 426mla

ON 10-29-80

6076 [redacted] [redacted]

The above submitted for information. u

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-6 SCB/DAK
EXEMPT - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 3/27/89

Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Gale
Mr. Eddy
Mr. Devic

18 MAY 1969

Classified by 6560 Pdl/rnp
Exempt from GDS, Category 2
Date of Declassification Indefinite 12/21/77

~~SECRET~~

NOT RECORDED
18 MAY 26 1969

NINE

SPEC. IN. R.

The Attorney General

JUNE

1 - Mr. C. D. DeLoach
1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan
May 13, 1969

Director, FBI

ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE

1 - Mr. J. E. Gale
1 - Mr. E. P. Grigalus
1 - Mr. G. C. Moore
1 - Mr. C. E. Glass

Reference is made to the letter dated March 27, 1969, from Assistant Attorney General Will Wilson, Criminal Division, in instant caption, and to Mr. Wilson's letter May 2, 1969, captioned "United States v. Cassius Clay, Electronic Surveillance."

The attached material is submitted in accordance with the requests contained in referenced communications.

Enclosures - 12

CEG:fish
(9)

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080 PGL/TAP
ON 12/21/77

100-106670-
NOT RECORDED
12 MAY 19 1969

NOTE:

See memorandum Moore to Sullivan, same caption, 5/13/69.

Classified "Top Secret" since this letter transmits documents classified "Top Secret." 10 MAY 16 1969

This matter being handled in accordance with memorandum C. D. Brennan to W. C. Sullivan 5/6/69 entitled "Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968." Referenced May 9, 1969 letter requested that pertinent material, requested in the referenced March 27, 1969, letter which relates to Cassius Clay, be made available by Tuesday, May 13, 1969, in order that readings in the Clay case may be forwarded to U.S. District Court in Houston, Texas, on May 14, 1969. This letter pertains to this material in the Clay case.

6 MAY 27 1969

DECLASSIFIED BY SP16S/DB/drc
ON 6/13/89 3/30/80

ORIGINAL FILED IN

~~TOP SECRET~~
JUNE

May 13, 1969

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

REASONS FOR REQUEST OF
ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE AUTHORIZATION

[REDACTED]

SECURITY PURPOSES INTENDED TO BE SERVED BY
SURVEILLANCE WHEN INSTITUTED AND PERIODICALLY CONTINUED

The security purposes intended to be served by this surveillance were to determine the extent of communist influence on King, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and the racial situation in general. By his activities, King had become recognized by many as the "national leader" of Negro civil rights and the integration movement.

INFORMATION CONCERNING WHETHER OR NOT COVERAGE WAS
MONITORED ON DIFFERENT SURVEILLANCES ON THE SAME PREMISES

No other coverage was monitored on different surveillances on the same premises.

NATIONAL SECURITY DANGERS WHICH COULD RESULT
FROM DISCLOSURE OF SURVEILLANCE TO THE DEFENSE

Though this electronic surveillance has been discontinued, its disclosure to the defense would be prejudicial to national security interests since pertinent data developed regarding the activities of the CPUSA would be revealed.

100-106670

Martin Luther King, Jr.

65-8160

CEG:fsh (10)

100-106670

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO
Exempt from GDS, Category 2
Date of Declassification Indefinite 12/31/77

~~TOP SECRET~~

Attached is a copy of a Memorandum for the Attorney General dated October 7, 1963, captioned "Martin Luther King, Jr., Security Matter - Communist, Communist Influence in Racial Matters," requesting authority to place a technical surveillance on the current, and any subsequent, residence of King. This request was approved by the Attorney General on October 10, 1963. U

Attachment

NOTE:

Original and one copy of list sent to the Attorney General by transmittal letter captioned "Electronic Surveillances," dated 5/13/69. U

Classified "Top Secret" since unauthorized disclosure of data herein could result in exceptionally grave damage to national defense interests. U

~~TOP SECRET~~

RE:

BERNARD S. LEE V. CLARENCE M. KELLEY, ET AL.
(U.S.D.C., D.C.) CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1185

SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (SCLC)
V. CLARENCE M. KELLEY, ET AL (U.S.D.C., D.C.)
CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1186

Serial **3479** pulled from this file under court order of
U.S. District Judge John Lewis Smith, Jr., and sent to
National Archives.

100-106670-3479

RE:

BERNARD S. LEE V. CLARENCE M. KELLEY, ET AL
(U.S.D.C, D.C.) CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1185

SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (SC
V. CLARENCE M. KELLY, ET AL (U.S.D.C., D.C.)
CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1186

~~REDACTED~~ serial ~~REDACTED~~ 3465 pulled from this file
under court order of U.S. District Judge John Lewis
Smith, Jr., and sent to National Archives.

100-106670 - 3465

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

JUNE

MR. TOLSON

DATE: 5/17/68

FROM : C. D. DeLoach

cc Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Gale
Mr. Bishop

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING
(Previous request for
electronic coverage
by Robert F. Kennedy)
LEAK OF INFORMATION BY DEPARTMENT

Tolson ✓
DeLoach ✓
Mohr ✓
Casper ✓
Callahan ✓
Conrad ✓
Felt ✓
Gale ✓
Rosen ✓
Sullivan ✓
Tavel ✓
Trotter ✓
Tele. Room ✓
Holmes ✓
Gandy ✓

Ed Weisl, Jr. came over to see me at 4:15 p.m., 5/17/68. He asked me if the rumor was true that was going around Washington to the effect that Bobby Kennedy had specifically asked the FBI to tap the telephone of Martin Luther King. I told Weisl I had not heard this rumor. I asked him what prompted his question. He replied that he had heard about this several times and, as a matter of fact, a statement had appeared in a recent newspaper article.

I reminded Weisl that Messrs. Gale, McAndrews, and I had briefed him regarding all activities pertaining to Bobby Kennedy's requests for microphones and telephone taps during his tenure as Attorney General. I stated this briefing, as he should recall, concerned the basis on which the Department pleaded immunity in the civil suit against our agents in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Weisl stated he remembered the briefing and, as a matter of fact, this was when the information first came to his attention. I asked Weisl why he was now asking me this specific question. He replied because Drew Pearson had found out about this matter and probably would print it in order to embarrass Bobby Kennedy.

I asked Weisl if he had discussed this matter with Drew Pearson. He replied in the affirmative and stated his father, Ed Weisl, Sr., had also discussed the matter with Pearson. Weisl asked me if the FBI would have any objections to this matter being brought out before the public. I told him it appeared as if the matter had already been brought out before the public. I stated he should keep several things in mind, i.e., (1) regardless of how such an article was written, a segment of the Negro population of the United States would still feel very harshly toward the FBI and (2) this would obviously cut off some of our sources of information.

Weisl rebutted this statement with the fact that Richard Harwood of the Washington Post had already printed the fact that

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5/22/80 BY SP-168/168

6-10-68

100-106670-3458

ADD:CSH (5)

REC-27

CONTINUED over

COPY SENT TO MR. TOLSON

MAY 21 1968

RACIAL INT. SEC. 158

6

MAY 21 1968
JUN 12 1968

Mr. Tolson

the FBI had accumulated a number of tapes on King, as a result of the utilization of microphones. Weisl stated that Pearson would obviously indicate that Bobby Kennedy had ordered the FBI to take this action. I told Weisl that, nevertheless, certain Negro groups would still blame the FBI, whether we were ordered to take such action or not.

Weisl stated he would try to keep the above matter from being printed, if the FBI felt so strongly about it. I told him we held no brief for Kennedy, in view of the shoddy way in which he had treated the FBI; however, we did not want to be involved in any political maneuvers and action of this nature would most certainly concern politics. Weisl stated he would try to keep this from appearing.

Richard Harwood did include in his recent article on the Director a statement that the FBI had several tapes on Martin Luther King, as a result of the utilization of microphones. This fact has also appeared in a number of other newspapers. Apparently Weisl has discussed this matter with Pearson---Pearson desiring to print the facts in order to embarrass Kennedy.

The record is quite clear, through the medium of memoranda written by former employee Courtney Evans, that Kennedy first requested electronic coverage; however, Evans succeeded in talking him out of it. Several months later Evans approached Kennedy and requested permission for such coverage, at which time Kennedy approved this coverage. While an expose of such facts could obviously hurt Kennedy, such action would also harm the FBI from a public relations standpoint. We, therefore, should have no part in it and should discreetly discourage such action if brought to our attention.

ACTION -

If such an article is printed by Pearson, we should follow a strict "no comment" policy.

Right.
[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: 5/1/68

FROM : C. D. Brennan

JUNE

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

As you recall, a blind memorandum was prepared at the request of Mr. DeLoach setting forth wiretaps on King approved under written signature of former Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy. Since the memorandum, which is dated April 9, 1968, was subsequently routed to the Director and other Bureau officials, it is being filed as an enclosure to this memorandum in order that it may be properly recorded in Bureau file.

ACTION:

None. For your information.

100-106670

Enclosure

MJR:sss

(4)

- 1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. C. D. Brennan
- 1 - Mr. M. J. Rozamus

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/22/80 BY SP16SK/pb/dk

5 - Rozamus R

1 XEROX COPY given to CPR
10-20-76
JTA/emb

EX-110
REC 10

100-106670-3413

4 MAY 8 1968

6 MAY 9 1968

2 copies made

1/5/77 JTA

re King Security File

for review at HSCA re 11/20/77 request

(See Bufile 100-11729)

Special Agent Room

ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/22/80 BY SP16SK/DB/KC

April 9, 1968

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Bishop	✓
Mr. Casper	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. Felt	✓
Mr. Gale	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓

Robert F. Kennedy, during the period he was Attorney General, not only approved recommendations for electronic surveillances but he initially requested such coverage. These are the facts:

Former Assistant Director C. A. Evans by memorandum dated July 16, 1963, to former Assistant to the Director A. H. Belmont reported that he, Evans, contacted Kennedy at his request on that date. Kennedy pointed out that in view of possibly communist influence in racial matters, he desired telephone coverage of King and Clarence Benjamin Jones, a New York attorney who had close association with King. Evans pointed out to Kennedy that King was in constant travel status and it was, therefore, doubtful that a telephone surveillance at his office or home would be productive. Also Evans raised a question as to the repercussions if it should ever become known that such a surveillance had been put on King. Kennedy replied that this did not concern him in the least.

By memorandum dated July 25, 1963, from Evans to Belmont, Evans reported that Kennedy stated he was of the opinion that his request for telephone surveillance on King had been ill-advised and that he was withdrawing his request.

Memorandum of October 7, 1963, to the Attorney General from the Director requested a telephone surveillance on King at his residence 563 Johnson Avenue, Northeast, Atlanta, Georgia. This was approved under the written signature of Kennedy dated October 10, 1963. A telephone surveillance was installed on November 8, 1963, and discontinued on April 30, 1965.

Memorandum dated October 18, 1963, to the Attorney General requested a telephone surveillance on King at his office, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, 330 Auburn Avenue, Northeast, Atlanta, Georgia. This was approved on the written signature of Kennedy dated October 21, 1963. Telephone surveillance was installed on October 21, 1963, and discontinued on June 21, 1966.

While Kennedy did personally sign two requests for telephone surveillances on King, he did not sign any microphone surveillance requests. The microphone surveillances were put

100-106670-3410
ENCLOSURE

on by Bureau officials (The Director, Belmont, Sullivan, & Baumgardner) acting under general authority relating to the Attorney General. During 1964 microphone surveillance coverage was placed on King during his travels to Washington, D. C.; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Honolulu, Hawaii; Los Angeles, California; Detroit, Michigan; San Francisco, California; and Savannah, Georgia.

By memorandum dated March 4, 1964, from F. J. Baumgardner to Mr. W. C. Sullivan recommended and approved that Evans personally deliver to the Attorney General a copy of a "Top Secret" memorandum containing results of microphone surveillances of King and his associates while at the Willard Hotel in Washington, D. C., during January 5 - 7, 1964, and during February 18 - 25, 1964, while King was in Honolulu, Hawaii, and Los Angeles, California.

It also contained King's vilification of the late President and his wife. The memorandum was delivered by Evans on March 10, 1964.

Memorandum from Evans to Belmont of September 11, 1964, reported that Kennedy before leaving office had instructed that the "Top Secret" memorandum submitted to him by the FBI be returned to the Bureau since he did not feel this material should go to the general Departmental files. Evans recommended that the copy of the material be destroyed. The Director instructed that it was not to be destroyed but kept in file with Evans' memorandum. The contents of the "Top Secret" memorandum clearly indicate that the information came from a microphone surveillance.

W.E.S.
W. *S* *b*

ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27

5010-106

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

~~SECRET~~

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

Memorandum

1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. C. D. Brennan

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: April 18, 1968

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FROM : C. D. Brennan

JUNE 1968
CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-1 [illegible]
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 4-18-88
5/22/80 [illegible]

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

This is to advise you of past electronic surveillances that we had installed for the purpose of securing intelligence data concerning the late Martin Luther King, Jr., former President of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC).



Installed	Discontinued	Type	Location
11/8/63	4/30/65	Wiretap	563 Johnson Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia
1/5/64	1/8/64	Microphone	Willard Hotel, Washington, D.C.
1/27/64	1/27/64	Microphone	Shroeder Hotel, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
2/18/64	2/20/64	Microphone	Hilton Hawaiian Village, Honolulu, Hawaii
2/20/64	2/21/64	Microphone	Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California
2/22/64	2/24/64	Microphone	Hyatt House Motel, Los Angeles, California
3/19/64	3/20/64	Microphone	Statler Hotel, Detroit, Michigan
4/23/64	4/24/64	Microphone	Senator Hotel, Sacramento, California
4/24/64	4/26/64	Wiretap	Hyatt House Motel, Los Angeles, California
7/7/64	7/9/64	Wiretap	Hyatt House Motel, Los Angeles, California

100-106670
RLR:sss

Classified by [illegible]
Exempt from GDS, Category [illegible]
Date of Declassification Indefinite

6 MAY 65 1968

~~SECRET~~

CONTINUED - OVER
SPEC. MAT. DAT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

File 3-C

~~SECRET~~

Memorandum C. D. Brennan to Mr. W. C. Sullivan
RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
100-106670

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

<u>Installed</u>	<u>Discontinued</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Location</u>
7/7/64	7/9/64	Microphone	Hyatt House Motel, Los Angeles, California
8/14/64	9/8/64	Wiretap	125 East 72nd Street, New York, New York
8/22/64	8/27/64	Wiretap	Claridge Hotel, Atlantic City, New Jersey
9/28/64	10/2/64	Microphone	Manger Hotel, Savannah, Georgia
1/8/65	1/11/65	Microphone	Park Sheraton Hotel, New York, New York
1/28/65	1/31/65	Microphone	Americana Hotel, New York, New York
3/29/65	3/31/65	Microphone	Park Sheraton Hotel, New York, New York
5/12/65	5/13/65	Microphone	Sheraton Atlantic Hotel, New York, New York
10/14/65	10/15/65	Microphone	Astor Hotel, New York, New York
10/28/65	10/30/65	Microphone	New York Hilton Hotel, New York, New York
11/29/65	11/30/65	Microphone	Americana Hotel, New York, New York

In addition to the above coverage of King, the following coverage was afforded the SCLC.

<u>Installed</u>	<u>Discontinued</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Location</u>
10/24/63	1/24/64	Wiretap	New York Office
11/8/63	6/21/66	Wiretap	Atlanta Headquarters
7/13/64	7/31/64	Wiretap	New York Office

All of the above wiretap surveillances were authorized under the signature of the then Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy who on 10/10/63 authorized the coverage of King's residence and any other future address to which he may move, and the New York Office of SCLC. He also authorized wiretap coverage of King and the Atlanta headquarters of SCLC on 10/21/63. These authorizations were given during the administration of President John F. Kennedy.

Attorney General Kennedy did not sign any microphone surveillance requests. Microphone surveillances were authorized by Bureau officials acting on general authority relating to the Attorney General.

ACTION:

None. For information.

7
BR
Jed

Wes
~~SECRET~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

JUNE

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan *WCS*

DATE: December 19, 1966

FROM : C. D. Brennan *CB*

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Wick
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. C. D. Brennan
- 1 - Mr. Rozamus
- 1 - Mr. D. M. Wells

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

Tele. Room
Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bishop
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Holmes
Miss Gandy

By memorandum dated 12/15/66 you were advised of the microphone and wire tap coverage we had afforded Martin Luther King, Jr., President, Southern Christian Leadership Conference. The Director wrote "When?" concerning the three times Attorney General Nicholas deB. Katzenbach was advised of the microphone installations and that trespass was involved. Also the Director wrote "When?" concerning the microphone coverage of King furnished Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy, perusal of which would indicate that a microphone was the source of this information.

Attorney General Katzenbach was advised on the dates indicated by memorandum, that trespass was involved in the following microphone installations:

Installed	Discontinued	Location	Attorney General Advised
5/12/65	5/13/65	Sheraton Atlantic Hotel New York, New York	5/17/65
10/14/65	10/15/65	Astor Hotel New York, New York	10/19/65
11/29/65	11/30/65	Americana Hotel New York, New York	12/1/65

Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy was furnished an eight page "Top Secret" memorandum ~~marked~~ dated March 4, 1964. This memorandum is a summary of microphone coverage afforded King ~~in the~~ Willard Hotel, Washington, D. C.; Hilton Hawaiian Village, Honolulu, Hawaii; Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California, and the Hyatt House Hotel, Los Angeles, California. The wording of the memorandum is couched in such a manner that it is obvious that a microphone was the source. Also furnished

100-106670

DMW:rwl

(7)

REC 18

EX-113

CONTINUED - OVER

6 JAN 27 1967

6 JAN 23 1967

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-12-82 BY SP-16SK/bek/kr

Handwritten notes and signatures:
b7(c)
b7(d)
b7(e)
b7(f)
b7(g)
b7(h)
b7(i)
b7(j)
b7(k)
b7(l)
b7(m)
b7(n)
b7(o)
b7(p)
b7(q)
b7(r)
b7(s)
b7(t)
b7(u)
b7(v)
b7(w)
b7(x)
b7(y)
b7(z)

Memorandum to Mr. W. C. Sullivan
RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
100-106670

Attorney General Kennedy on 6/1/64 was a separate memorandum concerning King [REDACTED] b7(c)
[REDACTED] This information, however, originated from [REDACTED] informant. b7(D)

By memorandum dated 9/11/64 former Assistant Director Courtney A. Evans recorded the return of the memoranda concerning King [REDACTED] from Attorney General Kennedy wherein Evans recommended the destruction of this material. The Director noted "They are not to be destroyed but are to be filed with this memo. H." They have since been maintained under secure circumstances in accordance with the Director's wishes. b7(c)

ACTION:

None. For information.

Emm

ms

WCF

ds

5

V. J. [Signature]

ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

100 FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

~~SECRET~~

Memorandum

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Wick

~~SECRET~~

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: December 15, 1966

FROM : C. D. Brennan

JUNE

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. C.D. Brennan
1 - Mr. Rozamus
1 - Mr. D.N. Wells

This is to advise you of the microphone and wire tap coverage that we have afforded Martin Luther King, Jr., President Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

As you are aware King has been in close association with individuals having Communist Party backgrounds since his rise to prominence in the civil rights field. Among such individuals is his principal advisor Stanley Levison, a long-time secret communist whose membership in the Communist Party, USA, has been established as late as July, 1963. Clarence Jones, another close advisor to King, was a former member and in a position of leadership in the Labor Youth League, a communist front organization. Bayard Rustin, another of King's close advisors, was a member of the Young Communist League in the early 1940's.

On October 10, 1963, Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy approved technical surveillances on King's current residence or at any further address to which he may move. He also approved the technical surveillance of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference New York City Office or any other address to which it may be moved.

A wire tap was installed on King's residence, 563 Johnson Avenue, Northeast, Atlanta, Georgia, on November 8, 1963, and discontinued on April 30, 1965, when King moved from this address. It was not reinstituted on his new residence.

From October 24, 1963, to January 24, 1964, and from July 7, 1964, to July 31, 1964, a wire tap was maintained on the Southern Christian Leadership Conference New York City Office. In addition, on October 21, 1963, Attorney General Kennedy authorized a wire tap on the Southern Christian Leadership Conference Headquarters at Atlanta, Georgia, which was maintained from November 8, 1963, to June 21, 1966, when Attorney General Nicholas deK. Katzenbach ordered it discontinued since he thought it might be prejudicial to the possible prosecution of Hosea Williams, a Southern Christian Leadership Conference official, under Interstate Transportation of Stolen Motor Vehicles Statutes.

100-106670

DW:1

SENT DIRECTOR

CONTINUED - OVER

EX-113

~~SECRET~~

JAN 23 1967

Retain Stamp

SECRET

Tolson
DeLoach
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
Felt
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

Classified by
Exempt from GDS, Category 2
Date of Declassification Indefinite

Brennan to Sullivan memo
12/19/66

6

~~SECRET~~

Memorandum to Mr. W. C. Sullivan
RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
100-106670

In addition to the foregoing we maintained 16 microphones and 4 wire taps of a few days duration at various hotels and one temporary residence. These were installed because of the possibility of a meeting between King and his communist advisors. The 4 wire taps were installed under the original authority given by the Attorney General on 10/10/63 concerning King's residences. U

Attorney General Katzenbach was specifically notified of three of these microphone installations. In each of these three instances the Attorney General was advised that a trespass was involved in the installation. U

In addition, concerning microphone coverage of King, Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy was furnished the pertinent information obtained, perusal of which would indicate that a microphone was the source of this information. U

ACTION:

None. For information.

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-16SK/DB/drc
REASON FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 10/10/80
5/22/80

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-4 JRM/HR
10-28-80

11/13/82
CLASSIFICATION RETAINED BY 6076 WAF/KR
EXEMPT FROM GDS CATEGORY 2
DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION INDEFINITE

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

Domestic Intelligence Division

INFORMATIVE NOTE

Date 12/17/66

Attached conversation between Stanley Levison and Chauncey Eskridge relates to possibility of electronic surveillance coverage by FBI of Martin Luther King. Levison is long-time secret communist and Eskridge is a Chicago attorney; both are King advisors.

We did maintain telephone tap coverage of King from November 1963, until June, 1966. *SP 1 66/10/12*

CLASS. & EXT. BY *SP 1 66/10/12*JH:cec REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.6 *12/17/86 5/2/8*

DATE OF REVIEW

Classified by *6080 Ld/100*

Exempt from GDS, Category 7

Date of Declassification Indefinite

~~SECRET~~ *12/20/77*DECLASSIFIED BY *SP 1 66/10/12*ON *10 29 60**6076 54684 10674-2266*

SECRET

FBI

Date: 12/16/66

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plaintext or code)

AIRTEL

Via _____

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-106670)

JUNE

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-136585)

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
~~SM - C~~ SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST
 (OO: AT)
 OFFICE OF ORIGIN: ATLANTA

Re telephone conversation, 12/16/66, between
 SAC DONALD E. RONEY of NY and Inspector JOSEPH SIZOO
 of the Bureau concerning conference of STANLEY LEVISON
 and CHAUNCEY (ESKRIDGE)

On 12/16/66, [REDACTED] a source close to
 STANLEY LEVISON, advised that information had
 come to his attention which disclosed that LEVISON
 and CHAUNCEY (CHAUNCEY) ESKRIDGE, Chicago attorney and
 adviser to KING, were in contact on that date. According
 to the information received by the source, their contact
 was in regard to the current controversy over eavesdropping.
 Their comments were as follows:

LEVISON: "This is something we have known
 about for years. We never knew who it was and chances
 are it was not just one but several. Surely the local
 community used to do it, but anytime he (KING) talked
 on the phone he knew he had visitors."

CHAUNCEY: "That's the first time that it ever
 came out knowledgeable that the FBI was doing this."

3 - Bureau (RM)
 1 - New York

JMK:kpm
 (5)

REC-4

100-106670-2804

DEC 23 1966

SECRET

Classified by *608 Pul*
 Exempt from GDS, Category *1*
 Date of Declassification Indefinite
 Sent _____ M Per _____

Approved: *6* MAR 30 1967
 Special Agent in Charge

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. DeLoach _____
 Mr. Mohr _____
 Mr. Bishop _____
 Mr. Casper _____
 Mr. Callahan _____
 Mr. Conrad _____
 Mr. Felt _____
 Mr. Gale _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Sullivan _____
 Mr. Tavel _____
 Mr. Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Miss Holmes _____
 Miss Gandy _____

SEARCHED BY *100-136585*
 INDEXED BY *100-136585*
 SERIALIZED BY *100-136585*
 FILED BY *100-136585*
 MAR 11 1967
 FBI - NEW YORK
 DATE OF REVIEW *5/22/80*

EX-100-00-000

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
 AND FIELD OFFICES
 ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP
 DATE *1/23/67*

~~SECRET~~

NY 100-136585

LEVISON: "Oh yea. That's right. Although actually it was communicated to him (KING)".

CHAUNCEY: "We knew it but the public didn't know it."

LEVISON: "The public didn't know it"

CHAUNCEY: "Except that Hoover (Director Hoover of the FBI) called that press conference after that little flap about him. Then Hoover disclosed to newsmen in an off the record meeting of news women. Remember he had the conference with the news women."

LEVISON: "That is right. Yea. What did he say that time to the news women?"

CHAUNCEY: "It was stated in the press that it was off the record, but that he told things about ML (KING) that they allegedly didn't know before. We never knew what he said, but the fact that he did communicate to news women this information is how Reston knew about it."

LEVISON: "It's always been well known that they have secret files on everybody from the President down, and this the press has talked about. As a matter of fact, it came up at that time because they said what's going to happen to those confidential files when Hoover resigns or dies. Who gets them. And of course everyone in Washington is nervous about that."

CHAUNCEY: "I don't blame them."

LEVISON: "This sort of thing you see, has a funny kind of quality to it. People are nervous--on the otherhand, the fella who has them can't use them because then he's in trouble. So it's a kind of equilibrium, that gets established. One of those funny stories I remember from years ago was the racketeer Dutch Schultz, one of the big operators in this area. He knew his phone was always tapped. And he never entered a phone conversation without saying, 'I hope your ears fall off.'"

~~SECRET~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

~~SECRET~~
ROUTE IN F. J. WHITE
JUNE 16 1966

Olson ☒
DeLoach ☒
Mohr ☒
Casper ☒
Callahan ☒
Conrad ☒
Felt ☒
Gale ☒
Rosen ☒
Sullivan ☒
Tavel ☒
Trotter ☒
Wick ☒
Tele. Room ☒
Holmes ☒
Gandy ☒

TO : Mr. DeLoach

FROM : W. C. Sullivan

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

DECLASSIFIED BY SP1 GSK/06
ON 5/22/80 DATE: 1/21/66

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Miss Holmes
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Baumgardner
- 1 - Mr. Bland
- 1 - Mr. Rozamus
- 1 - Mr. Bates

Special Agent in Charge Roney, New York Office, called on 1/20/66 and advised that Martin Luther King, Jr., and some of his associates have a reservation at the Americana Hotel, beginning 1/21/66 for approximately four days. King and his party will have Rooms 3435 - 3437. The New York Office has available Room 3335 from which it advises it can maintain a microphone surveillance on King with full security assured and without the use of any wiring.

We have had prior information that King planned to meet with some of his advisors with communist backgrounds, such as Harry Wachtel and Clarence Jones this week in New York City. Past conferences with such advisors have shown the communist influence exerted by them upon King relative to the racial situation as well as the Vietnam situation.

New York Office requested authority to make the microphone surveillance installation the night of 1/20-21/66, to be activated 1/21/66 with full security assured. It also requested authority for expenditure of up to \$35 per day for the monitoring room.

ACTION: (Remove this surveillance at once 1-21-66)
Yes. H

On New York's assurance that full security was available and since time was of the essence, New York was told to go ahead with the installation and was also authorized to make the necessary expenditure for the monitoring room. Attached for approval is a memorandum to the Attorney General advising him that this microphone surveillance will be activated 1/21/66 and will be immediately discontinued upon King's departure on or about 1/25/66.

Classified by 6050 LRP
Exempt from GDS, Category 2
Date of Declassification Indefinite

ENCLOSURE

1 - M. F. Row - Room 6221 IB

100-106670

Enclosure

SPB:deb del

(9)

~~SECRET~~

6 MAR 3 1966

no one here approved
sacs. I have told
Sullivan again not to
institute a make
surveillance without the

*Stacking, says, was instructed
to remove any papers or provide with
activity - 1/21/66 - Gen*



~~SECRET~~

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

In Reply, Please Refer to

File No. (IS) 100-106670

January 21, 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

This Bureau's investigation of communist influence in racial matters has developed considerable information indicating the influence upon Martin Luther King, Jr., head of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, by individuals with subversive backgrounds such as Stanley David Levison, Harry Wachtel, Bayard Rustin and others. From time to time, King meets with these individuals and coverage of these meetings by this Bureau results in the obtaining of evidence of the influences upon King as well as information concerning the tactics and plans of King and his organization in the civil rights movement. The coverage of these meetings also has developed information concerning King's involvement in the Vietnam situation. These meetings frequently take place in hotel rooms in New York City. *BU*

On January 20, 1966, information was received that King plans to arrive in New York City on January 21, 1966, and will stay at the Americana Hotel, 52nd Street and 7th Avenue, New York City, from January 21, 1966, until approximately January 25, 1966. We also had information that King planned to meet with his advisors this week in New York City. Because of the importance of the meeting and the urgency of the situation, a microphone surveillance was effected January 21, 1966, on King in Rooms 3435 - 3437, Americana Hotel, New York City. This surveillance involved trespass. *u* It will be immediately discontinued upon his departure.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

605-12/1/66
Classified by
Exempt from GDS, Category 2
Date of Declassification Indefinite *12/24/77*

~~SECRET~~
~~GROUP 1~~

Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

DECLASSIFIED BY *581 GSK/DB/K*
ON *3/23/80*

ENCLOSURE

100-106670-2224

~~SECRET~~

Memorandum for the Attorney General
Re: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
100-106670

This memorandum is classified "Secret" since it concerns a microphone surveillance, unauthorized disclosure of which could result in serious damage to the Bureau's security coverage to the detriment of national security. U

- 2 -
~~SECRET~~

INSTRUCTIONS: This form is to be removed from file by a Filing Unit employee only upon the return of the item.

Subject <i>Martin Luther King</i>		Date of Mail <i>1-21-66</i>
Type of Mail		
<input type="checkbox"/> Report		
<input type="checkbox"/> Incoming letter		
<input type="checkbox"/> Outgoing letter		
<input type="checkbox"/> Memorandum		
<input type="checkbox"/> Airtel		
<input type="checkbox"/> Teletype		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enclosure (describe) <i>only</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Laboratory Work Sheet		
<input type="checkbox"/> Personnel Security Questionnaire (PSQ)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Loyalty Form		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe)		
Removed for <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. <i>Miller</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/> Miss <input type="checkbox"/> Room <i>1026 Q8</i>		Removed by <i>CMB</i>
		Date of Removal <i>5-19-72</i>
Reason for Removal		
<input type="checkbox"/> For copying (If for another agency, list agency and date of request.)		
<input type="checkbox"/> To send to		
<input type="checkbox"/> To attach to		
<input type="checkbox"/> For office use		
<input type="checkbox"/> For change to another file		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <i>To be kept perm in Mr. Deegan office 4092 (2-14-75)</i>		
Complete File and Serial Number <i>100-10 6670-2224 X encl</i>		

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

_____ Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☐ Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

- ☒ For your information: We are unable to locate this document in file. This document could have possibly been sent to the National Archives.
- ☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
100-106670-2224X, encl.

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

OFFICE OF
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL



W. Tolson

June ✓
12/10/61

Mr. Howe -

Obviously these are particularly delicate surveillances and we should be very cautious in terms the non-FBI people who may from time to time necessarily be involved in some aspect of installation -

Martin Luther King, Jr.

WHL

Mr. Hoover -

Obviously these are particularly delicate surveillances and we should be very cautious in terms the non-FBI people who may from time to time necessarily be involved in some aspect of installation.

NdeK (Katzenbach)

DEC 10 REC-100-106670-2184

*Disseminated EX-103
Thelipis +
Baker
rjw*

JAN 10 1966

5-10R

6 JAN 12 1966

*3-20-66
4-20-66
JR*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/22/80 BY SP1 GSK/DB/dKC

105



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. (IS) 100-106670

December 1, 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

"JUNE"

This Bureau's investigation of the communist influence in racial matters has developed considerable information indicating the influence upon Martin Luther King, Jr., head of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, by individuals with subversive backgrounds such as Stanley David Levison, Harry Wachtel, Bayard Rustin and others. From time to time, King meets with these individuals and coverage of these meetings by this Bureau results in the obtaining of evidence of the influences upon King as well as information concerning the tactics and plans of King and his organization in the civil rights movement. The coverage of these meetings also has developed information concerning King's involvement in the Vietnam situation. These meetings frequently take place in hotel rooms in New York City.

On November 29, 1965, information was obtained that King was to spend the night of November 29, 1965, at the Americana Hotel, 52nd Street and 7th Avenue, New York City. We also had information that King planned to meet with his advisors while in New York City, November 29-30, 1965. Because of the importance of the meeting and the urgency of the situation, a microphone surveillance was effected November 29, 1965, on King in Rooms 3609-3611, Americana Hotel, New York City. This surveillance involved trespass and was discontinued on November 30, 1965.

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

~~SECRET~~

~~GROUP 1~~

~~Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification~~

JAN 10 1968

~~SECRET~~

Classified by 6080 [signature]
Exempt from GDS, Category 7
Date of Declassification Indefinite

JAN 12 1966

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY
SLIP

DECLASSIFIED BY 4332
ON AUG 10 1972

REC-4
100-106670-2183

5-1174

3000 [signature]
[signature]

12/29/77

~~SECRET~~

ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

REC-4
(12) 100-106670 2182

JUNE

December 1, 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

EX-103

RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Miss Holmes
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Bland
1 - Mr. Baumgardner
1 - Mr. Donohue

This Bureau's investigation of the communist influence in racial matters has developed considerable information indicating the influence upon Martin Luther King, Jr., head of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, by individuals with subversive backgrounds such as Stanley David Levison, Harry Wachtel, Bayard Rustin and others. From time to time, King meets with these individuals and coverage of these meetings by this Bureau results in the obtaining of evidence of the influences upon King as well as information concerning the tactics and plans of King and his organization in the civil rights movement. The coverage of these meetings also has developed information concerning King's involvement in the Vietnam situation. These meetings frequently take place in hotel rooms in New York City. b7(c)

On November 29, 1965, information was obtained that King was to spend the night of November 29, 1965, at the Americana Hotel, 52nd Street and 7th Avenue, New York City. We also had information that King planned to meet with his advisors while in New York City, November 29-30, 1965. Because of the importance of the meeting and the urgency of the situation, a microphone surveillance was effected November 29, 1965, on King in Rooms 3609-3611, Americana Hotel, New York City. This surveillance involved trespass and was discontinued on November 30, 1965.

Respectfully,

SEE NOTE PAGE 2.

SENT FROM D. O.
TIME 6:00 PM
DATE 12-1-65
BY *[Signature]*

John Edgar Hoover
Director

~~SECRET~~

~~Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification~~

Classified by 6060 E-1/12/79
Exempt from GDS, Category 1
Date of Declassification Indefinite

DECLASSIFIED BY SP1 GSK/PB/dkc
DATE 12-2-80

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S)

DATE

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

JAN 12 1966

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Dec 1 3 48 PM '65

RECEIVING ROOM

101

~~SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

NOTE:

This memorandum is classified "Secret" since it concerns a microphone surveillance, unauthorized disclosure of which could result in serious damage to the Bureau's security coverage to the detriment of national security. U

Memorandum from F. J. Baumgardner to Mr. Sullivan 11/29/65 reported the telephonic request of the New York Office 11/29/65 for authority to make installation of the microphone surveillance. In view of the urgency of the situation and on New York's assurance of full security, they were instructed to make the installation. On the afternoon of 11/30/65, the New York Office telephonically advised that this surveillance, [REDACTED] was installed in Rooms 3609-3611, 3:45 p.m., 11/29/65 and discontinued 1:30 p.m., 11/30/65. [REDACTED] U b(2) b(7)(D) b(7)(E)

~~X~~
CONF. INFO.

~~SECRET~~

- 2 -

10

~~SECRET~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

JUNE

TO : Mr. Sullivan *A*

DATE: 11/29/65

FROM : F. J. Baumgardner

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan *V.*
- 1 - Mr. Baumgardner
- 1 - Mr. Bland
- 1 - Mr. Donohue
- 1 - Mr. Phillips *Phillips*

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan *X* _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

Special Agent in Charge (Roney) New York Office, called this morning (11/29/65) and advised that Martin Luther King, Jr., and some of his associates have a reservation at the Americana Hotel in New York City, arrival about 2 p.m., today (11/29/65). King will probably stay only one night as he is to be in Washington, D. C., 11/30/65. King and his party will have Rooms 3609 - 3611. The New York Office has available Room 3509 from which it advises it can maintain a microphone surveillance on King, with full security assured and without the use of any wiring.

We have had prior information that King will meet with some of his advisors with communist backgrounds, such as Stanley Levison and Harry Wachtel. These conferences with his advisors have shown the communist influence upon King relative to the racial situation as well as the Vietnam situation.

The New York Office requested authority to make the microphone surveillance installation immediately with full security assured and also requested authority for expenditure of up to \$35 per day for the monitoring room.

ACTION:

On New York's assurance that full security was available and since time was of the essence, New York was told to go ahead with the installation as planned and was also authorized the necessary expenditure for the monitoring room. Inasmuch as the installation will be made today (11/29/65) and deactivated immediately upon King's departure, probably 11/30/65, we will promptly submit a memorandum to the Attorney General advising when the installation was made and when it was taken off.

1 - M. F. Row - Room 6221 IB

100-106670

SPF:deh

(8)

Classified by *100-106670*

Exempt from GDS, Category *2*

Date of Declassification Indefinite *10/77*

~~SECRET~~

6 JAN 12 1966

DECLASSIFIED BY SP16SK/PP/KC
ON 6/23/80

REC-4/00-106670-2182
Spec. Op.

Code Page
12/13/65

FBI

Date: 12/1/65

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-106670)

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-136585)

JUNESUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SM-C

Re Bureau telephone call by Inspector J.A. SIZOO, 11/30/65, authorizing installation of misur coverage of KING at the Americana Hotel, New York City, 11/29-30/65.

On 11/29/65, at 3:45 PM, coverage was effected on rooms 3609-3611, the rooms assigned to KING and ANDREW YOUNG. The source, [REDACTED] was monitored from room 3509. b(2) b(7)(D)

On 11/30/65, at 1:30 PM, coverage was discontinued following KING's departure.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/22/80 BY SP-1 GSK/DB/RLC
REC-30

1 811 RB

3 - Bureau (100-106670) (RM)
1 - New York (100-136585) (42)

DEC 2 1965

JMK:gmd
(5)

EX-103

R. Wick

Approved: _____

Sent _____

M

Per _____

Special Agent in Charge

DEC 7 1965

RE:

BERNARD S. LEE V. CLARENCE M. KELLEY, ET AL.
(U.S.D.C., D.C.) CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1185

SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (SCLC)
V. CLARENCE M. KELLEY, ET AL (U.S.D.C., D.C.)
CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1186

Serial *2092* pulled from this file under court order of
U.S. District Judge John Lewis Smith, Jr., and sent to
National Archives.

Form 204 (Rev. 2-1-60) Date 11/4/65

To: ☒ Director BUREAU MAIL ROOM FILE # _____

Att.: _____

☐ SAC _____ Title JUNE

☐ ASAC _____

☐ Supv. _____

☐ Agent MARTIN LUTHER KING

☐ SE _____

☐ IC _____

☐ CC _____

☐ Steno _____

☐ Clerk _____

ACTION DESIRED

<input type="checkbox"/> Acknowledge	<input type="checkbox"/> Open Case
<input type="checkbox"/> Assign _____ Reassign _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare lead cards
<input type="checkbox"/> Bring file	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare tickler
<input type="checkbox"/> Call me	<input type="checkbox"/> Recharge serials
<input type="checkbox"/> Correct	<input type="checkbox"/> Return assignment card
<input type="checkbox"/> Deadline _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Return file
<input type="checkbox"/> Deadline passed	<input type="checkbox"/> Return serials
<input type="checkbox"/> Delinquent	<input type="checkbox"/> Search and return
<input type="checkbox"/> Discontinue	<input type="checkbox"/> See me
<input type="checkbox"/> Expedite	<input type="checkbox"/> Send Serials
<input type="checkbox"/> File	<input type="checkbox"/> Submit new charge out
<input type="checkbox"/> For information	<input type="checkbox"/> Submit report by _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Initial & return	<input type="checkbox"/> Type _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Leads need attention _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Return with explanation or notation as to action taken.	

Even. consists of 3 reels of tape

Please deliver immediately to Inspector J.A. SIZOO
Room 807 - RB

See reverse side

JOHN F. MALONE
Office New York

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/22/80 BY SP-1 GSK/MLK

6

DEC 2

Sealed
ENCLOSURE
in bag a top of cabinet
b7(c)
Kept in
office
Deegan's office

REC-24

100-106670-2092

NOT RECORDED

6 DEC 1 1965

4092 (2-15-75)

RE:

BERNARD S. LEE V. CLARENCE M. KELLEY, ET AL.
(U.S.D.C., D.C.) CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1185

SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (SCLC)
V. CLARENCE M. KELLEY, ET AL (U.S.D.C., D.C.)
CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1186

Serial *2064* pulled from this file under court order of
U.S. District Judge John Lewis Smith, Jr., and sent to
National Archives.

100-106670-2064

RE:

BERNARD S. LEE V. CHARLES M. KELLEY, ET AL.
(U.S.D.C., D.C.) CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1185

SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE, (BOB)
V. CHARLES M. KELLEY, ET AL (U.S.D.C., D.C.)
CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1186

Serial **1063** pulled from this file under court order of
U.S. District Judge John Lewis Smith, Jr., and sent to
National Archives.

100-106670-2063

FBI

Date: 11/8/65

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-106670)
 FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-136585)
 SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
 SM-C

JUNE

Re Bureau telephone call dated 10/28/65,
 authorizing misur coverage of KING at the New York Hilton Hotel,
 10/28/65.

On 10/28/65, at 2:30 p.m., misur coverage was
 effected on rooms 2307-2308, KING's rooms at the NY Hilton
 Hotel.

The source, [REDACTED] was monitored from room
 2206. On 10/30/65, at 2:00 p.m., the source was discontinued.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 5/22/80 BY SP-16SK/DB/dkc

3-Bureau (100-106670) (RM)
 1-NY (100-136585) (42)
 JMK:rmv
 (5)

EX-112 REC-35 100-106670-2034

14 NOV 8 1965

SUBV CONTROL

DONCHUE

Approved: _____
 Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

6 NOV 17 1965

INSTRUCTIONS: This form is to be removed from file by a Filing Unit employee only upon the return of the item.

Subject <u>Martin Luther King, Jr.</u>		Date of Mail <u>11-1-65</u>
Type of Mail		
<input type="checkbox"/> Report		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Incoming letter	<u>Atlanta</u>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Outgoing letter		
<input type="checkbox"/> Memorandum		
<input type="checkbox"/> Airtel		
<input type="checkbox"/> Teletype		
<input type="checkbox"/> Enclosure (describe)		
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE <u>5/22/80</u> BY <u>SP-16SK/DG/DKE</u>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Laboratory Work Sheet		
<input type="checkbox"/> Personnel Security Questionnaire (PSQ)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Loyalty Form		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe)		
Removed for		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/> Miss <input type="checkbox"/> Room	<u>Miller</u> <u>(orig)</u> <u>1026</u>	Removed by <u>CMB</u>
		Date of Removal <u>5-19-72</u>
Reason for Removal		
<input type="checkbox"/> For copying (If for another agency, list agency and date of request.)		
<input type="checkbox"/> To send to		
<input type="checkbox"/> To attach to		
<input type="checkbox"/> For office use		
<input type="checkbox"/> For change to another file		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>To be kept perm in Mr. Deegans</u> <u>office 4092 (2-14-75)</u>		
Complete File and Serial Number <u>100-106670-2031</u>		

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

_____ Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☐ Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☒ For your information: We are unable to locate this document in file. This document could have possibly been sent to the National Archives.

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

100 - 106670 - 2031

XXXXXX
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XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

Memorandum

JUNE

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
DeLoach _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

TO : Mr. Sullivan *WES*

FROM : F. J. Baumgardner *J*

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

DATE: 10/29/65

~~Mr. Belmont~~
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Baumgardner
1 - Mr. Donohue
1 - Mr. Phillips

At 11 a.m., 10/28/65 I took a telephone call from [redacted] of the New York Office who advised that they had just obtained information that Martin Luther King, Jr., was to arrive in New York City at 12:49 p.m. that date (10/28/65) and that he was planning on staying at the Hilton Hotel. [redacted] said that they were in a position to install, with full security assured, a microphone surveillance (misur) to cover King's activities because of the communist influences frequently revealed concerning King. [redacted] requested authority for the installation and expenditure of \$30 per day for the rental of a room for monitoring purposes. [redacted] said that [redacted] would be used and [redacted]. Because time was of the essence, I gave [redacted] the necessary authority on his assurance of full security.

The New York Office telephonically advised today (10/29/65) that the misur had been installed to cover King's room at the Hilton Hotel but that to date no unusual intelligence had been forthcoming nor was there any indication that there would be. It appeared to the New York Office that King's stay in New York City was for the purpose of meeting a speech commitment in Westchester County the night of 10/29/65. New York advised that the misur would be discontinued immediately upon King's departure.

RECOMMENDATION:

In view of the apparent lack of intelligence to be derived from the misur in this instance, it is recommended that no further action be taken. This is for your information.

100-106670

FJB:deh
(6)

NOV 10 1965

6 NOV 17 1965

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/22/80 BY SP-1 GSK/DB/KR

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5/22/80 BY SP-16SK/pjw

(Translation)
Enclosure
retained
in office
of Mr. Sullivan
2 Dec 1965
File filed
in by mail room

FD-4 (Rev. 2-4-64)

Date 10/19/65

To: Director FILE #

Att: INSPECTOR J. A. SIZOO, Room 807, RB

☐ SAC Title PERSONAL

☐ ASAC

☐ Supv.

☐ Agent

☐ SE

☐ IC

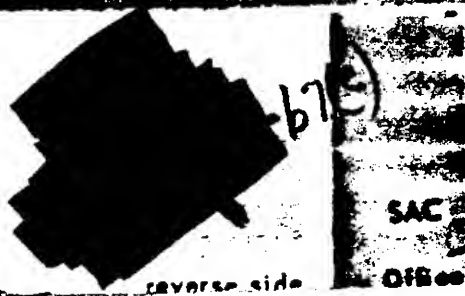
☐ CC

☐ Sme

☐ Clerk

ACTION DESIRED

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acknowledge | <input type="checkbox"/> Open Case |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assign <u>Reassign</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare lead cards |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bring file | <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare tickler |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Call me <u>Encl. consists of 6 reels of tape</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Recharge serials |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Correct <u>of tape</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Return assignment card |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deadline <u>of tape</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Return file |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deadline passed | <input type="checkbox"/> Return serials |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delinquent <u>Out. & return 1315</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Search and return |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Discontinue <u>1315</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> See me |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Expedite | <input type="checkbox"/> Send Serials <u> </u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> File | <input type="checkbox"/> to <u> </u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> For information | <input type="checkbox"/> Submit new charge out |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Initial & return | <input type="checkbox"/> Submit Report by <u> </u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leads need attention | <input type="checkbox"/> Type <u> </u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Return with explanation or notation as to action taken. | |



SAC
Office

File 100-106670
NEW YORK

6 ENCL
DEC 15 1965
ENCLOSURE
obscene

REC-101

100-106670-1990X

NOT RECORDED
6 DEC 3 1965

A

112



SECRET
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

In Reply, Please Refer to

File No. (IS) 100-106670

October 19, 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

This Bureau's investigation of the communist influence in racial matters has developed considerable information indicating the influence upon Martin Luther King, Jr., head of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, by individuals with subversive backgrounds such as Stanley David Levison, Harry Wachtel, Bayard Rustin and others. From time to time, King meets with these individuals and coverage of these meetings by this Bureau results in the obtaining of evidence of the influences upon King as well as information concerning the tactics and plans of King and his organization in the civil rights movement. The coverage of these meetings also has developed information concerning King's involvement in the Vietnam situation. These meetings frequently take place in hotel rooms in New York City. (u)

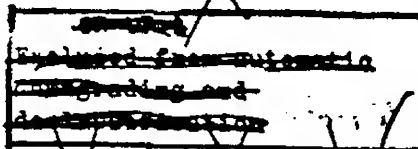
On October 14, 1965, information was obtained that King was to spend the night of October 14, 1965, at the Astor Hotel in New York City. We also had information that King planned to meet with his advisors while in New York City, October 14-15, 1965. Because of the importance of the meeting and the urgency of the situation, a microphone surveillance was effected October 14, 1965, on King in Room 345, Astor Hotel, 44th Street and Broadway Avenue, New York City. This surveillance involved trespass and was discontinued on October 15, 1965. (u)

Respectfully,

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director

OCT 28 1965

SECRET



Classified by 6080 RWT/MP
Exempt from GDS, Category
Date of Declassification Indefinite 10/14/77

6 NOV 2 1965

~~SECRET~~

ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

(IS) 100-106670

JUNE

October 19, 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Miss Holmes
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Bland
1 - Mr. Baumgardner
1 - Mr. Donohue

This Bureau's investigation of the communist influence in racial matters has developed considerable information indicating the influence upon Martin Luther King, Jr., head of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, by individuals with subversive backgrounds such as Stanley David Levison, Harry Wachtel, Bayard Rustin and others. From time to time, King meets with these individuals and coverage of these meetings by this Bureau results in the obtaining of evidence of the influences upon King as well as information concerning the tactics and plans of King and his organization in the civil rights movement. The coverage of these meetings also has developed information concerning King's involvement in the Vietnam situation. These meetings frequently take place in hotel rooms in New York City. (u)

On October 14, 1965, information was obtained that King was to spend the night of October 14, 1965, at the Astor Hotel in New York City. We also had information that King planned to meet with his advisors while in New York City, October 14-15, 1965. Because of the importance of the meeting and the urgency of the situation, a microphone surveillance was effected October 14, 1965, on King in Room 345, Astor Hotel, 44th Street and Broadway Avenue, New York City. This surveillance involved trespass and was discontinued on October 15, 1965. (u)

Respectfully,

REC-21

John Edgar Hoover
Director

SENT FROM D. C.
TIME 3:22
DATE 11-19-65
BY [signature]

CLASSIFIED BY [signature]

SECRET

Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification
Exempt from GDS, Category
Date of Declassification Indefinite

SEE NOTE PAGE 2.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES

AND FIELD OFFICES

ADVISED BY [signature]

DATE [signature]

6 NOV 2 1965

TELETYPE UNIT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/27/83 BY SP-1 [signature]

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

~~SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

NOTE:

This memorandum is classified "Secret" since it concerns a microphone surveillance, unauthorized disclosure of which could result in serious damage to the Bureau's security coverage to the detriment of national security. u

Memorandum from W.C. Sullivan to Mr. Belmont
10/14/65 reported the telephonic request of the New York Office 10/14/65 for authority to make installation of the microphone surveillance. In view of the urgency of the situation and on New York's assurance of full security, they were instructed to make the installation. New York airtel 10/15/65 reported that this surveillance, [REDACTED] was installed in Room 345 [REDACTED] u
[REDACTED] It was discontinued 1 p.m., 10/15/65.

b(2)
b7(D)
b7(E)

~~SECRET~~

FBI

Date: 10/15/65

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-106670)
 FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-136585)
 SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING
 SM-C

JUNE

On 10/14/65, at 6:00 p.m., [REDACTED] a misur
 installed room 345, Astor Hotel, Times Square, NYC, registered
 to subject. Informant monitored room 445, Astor Hotel.

On 10/15/65, at 1:00 p.m., informant discontinued.

Security assured.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 5/22/80 BY SP-16SK/PAK

Memo to AL
 10/19/65
 STP/dch.

CC-808RB
 3-Bureau (100-106670) (RM)
 1-NY (100-136585)
 JJK:rmv
 (5)

REQ-21

100-106670-1988

17 OCT 16 1965

C. C. Wick

SUB CONTROL

DOUGLASS

SPEC. MAR. PM.

Approved: [Signature]
 6 NOV 2 1965 Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

~~SECRET~~

Memorandum ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: 10/14/65

FROM : W. C. Sullivan

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Baumgardner
- 1 - Mr. Donohue
- 1 - Mr. Phillips

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

JUNE

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
DeLoach _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

The New York Office called me this afternoon (10/14/65) and advised that Martin Luther King, Jr., has a reservation for tonight at the Astor Hotel in New York City. He is to be in Room 445. The New York Office has available Room 435 from which it advises it can maintain, with full security assured, a microphone surveillance on King.

King has recently been conferring with his advisors with communist backgrounds, such as Stanley David Levison and Harry Wachtel, on his visits to New York City. We have specific information that he plans to see Wachtel on this visit. His conferences with these advisors have shown the communist influence upon King relative to racial matters as well as the Vietnam situation.

The New York Office requested authority to make the microphone installation immediately with full security assured.

ACTION:

On New York's assurance that full security was available and since time was of essence, I told New York to go ahead with the installation as planned. I also authorized the necessary expenditure for the room for monitoring purposes. Memo to A.G. being prepared.

100-106670

1 - Mr. M. F. Row (Room 6221 IB)

SFP:deh
(7)

Classified by 6086/whm/jfb
Exempt from GDS, Category 2
Date of Declassification Indefinite 12/20/77

REC 1

6 OCT 26 1965

EX-109

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED BY SP2/GSK/DEL/KC
ON 5/22/80

INSTRUCTIONS: This form is to be removed from file by a Filing Unit employee only upon the return of the item.

Subject <i>Martin Luther King Jr.</i>		Date of Mail <i>10-18-65</i>			
Type of Mail	<i>Los Angeles</i>				
<input type="checkbox"/> Report					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Incoming letter					
<input type="checkbox"/> Outgoing letter					
<input type="checkbox"/> Memorandum					
<input type="checkbox"/> Airtel					
<input type="checkbox"/> Teletype					
<input type="checkbox"/> Enclosure (describe)					
<div>ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE <i>1/22/80</i> BY <i>SP-1 GSK/DB/KCL</i></div>					
			<input type="checkbox"/> Laboratory Work Sheet		
			<input type="checkbox"/> Personnel Security Questionnaire (PSQ)		
			<input type="checkbox"/> Loyalty Form		
			<input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe)		
Removed for	Removed by	Date of Removal			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. <i>Miller</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Miss <input type="checkbox"/> Room <i>(orig)</i> <i>1026 JB</i>	<i>CMB</i>	<i>5-19-72</i>			
Reason for Removal					
<input type="checkbox"/> For copying (If for another agency, list agency and date of request.)					
<input type="checkbox"/> To send to					
<input type="checkbox"/> To attach to					
<input type="checkbox"/> For office use					
<input type="checkbox"/> For change to another file					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <i>To be kept perm in Mr. Phillips ^{Dugan} office 4092 (2-14-75)</i>					
Complete File and Serial Number <i>100-106670-1980</i>					

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

_____ Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☐ Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☒ For your information: We are unable to locate this document in file. This document could have possibly been sent to the National Archives.

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

100 - 106670 - 1980

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

INSTRUCTIONS: This form is to be removed from file by a Filing Unit employee only upon the return of the item.

Subject <i>Martin Luther King, Jr.</i>		Date of Mail <i>12-18-65</i>
Type of Mail		
<input type="checkbox"/> Report		
<input type="checkbox"/> Incoming letter		
<input type="checkbox"/> Outgoing letter		
<input type="checkbox"/> Memorandum		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airtel	<i>NY</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Teletype		
<input type="checkbox"/> Enclosure (describe)		
<div style="text-align: center;">ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE <i>5/22/80</i> BY <i>SP-168/10/80</i></div>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Laboratory Work Sheet		
<input type="checkbox"/> Personnel Security Questionnaire (PSQ)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Loyalty Form		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe)		
Removed for	Removed by	Date of Removal
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/> Miss <input type="checkbox"/> Room	<i>Miller</i> <i>(orig.) 1026</i> <i>CMB</i>	<i>5-19-72</i>
Reason for Removal		
<input type="checkbox"/> For copying (If for another agency, list agency and date of request.)		
<input type="checkbox"/> To send to		
<input type="checkbox"/> To attach to		
<input type="checkbox"/> For office use		
<input type="checkbox"/> For change to another file		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <i>To be kept perm. in Mr. Deegan's</i> <i>office 4092 (2-14-75)</i>		
Complete File and Serial Number <i>100-106670-1976</i>		

18'

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☒ For your information: We are unable to locate this document in file. This document could have possibly been sent to the National Archives.

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

100-106670-1976

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

INSTRUCTIONS: This form is to be removed from file by a Filing Unit employee only upon the return of the item.

Subject <i>Martin Luther King</i>		Date of Mail <i>10-21-65</i>
Type of Mail		
<input type="checkbox"/> Report	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Incoming letter	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Outgoing letter	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Memorandum	_____	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airtel	<i>N.Y.</i>	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Teletype	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Enclosure (describe)	_____	_____
_____		_____
_____		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Laboratory Work Sheet		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Personnel Security Questionnaire (PSQ)		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Loyalty Form		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe)		_____
_____		_____
_____		_____
Removed for		Removed by
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. <i>Miller</i>		<i>CMB</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Mrs.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Miss		
<input type="checkbox"/> Room <i>(rm) 1026 DB</i>		
		Date of Removal <i>5-19-72</i>
Reason for Removal		
<input type="checkbox"/> For copying (If for another agency, list agency and date of request.)		

<input type="checkbox"/> To send to		

<input type="checkbox"/> To attach to		

<input type="checkbox"/> For office use		

<input type="checkbox"/> For change to another file		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <i>To be kept perm. in Mr. Deegan's</i>		
<i>office 4092 (2-14-75)</i>		
Complete File and Serial Number <i>100-106670-1975</i>		

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

_____ Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
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- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☒ For your information: We are unable to locate this document in file. This document could have possibly been sent to the National Archives.

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

100 - 106670 - 1975

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

RE:

BERNARD S. LEE V. CLARENCE M. KELLEY, ET AL.
(U.S.D.C., D.C.) CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1185

SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (SCLC)
V. CLARENCE M. KELLEY, ET AL (U.S.D.C., D.C.)
CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1186

Serial 1808 pulled from this file under court order of
U.S. District Judge John Lewis Smith, Jr., and sent to
National Archives.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Memorandum

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

TO :

DIRECTOR, FBI (100-106670)

DATE: 7/29/65

FROM :

SAC, NEW YORK (100-136585)

JUNE

SUBJECT :

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SM - C
(OO: AT)

b7(c)

[Handwritten signature]

ReNYairtels to Bureau and Atlanta, 5/18; 28/65,
concerning [REDACTED] KING while he is
in this city.

b7(D)

[REDACTED]

(c)

[REDACTED]

(c)

EXP. PROC.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES

*[Handwritten: All information
to be kept confidential]*

DATE

- 2 - Bureau (RM)
- 1 - Atlanta (100-5586) (RM)
- 1 - New York

REC-58

EX-101

JUL 30 1965

JMK:egb

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CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 GSK/DO/dce
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 7/29/85

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AUG 16 1965 U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

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NY 100-136585

The aforementioned is brought to the Bureau's and Atlanta's attention for whatever assistance it might afford in the future.

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